

Bay Area Reporter

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395 NINTH ST., SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

EEOC Ruling May Lead to Federal Gay Protection at Work

by Bob Roehr

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) protects people with AIDS, other diseases, and disabilities from discrimination in the workplace. The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) has interpreted "disability" to include genetic abnormalities that might indicate a higher risk for specific diseases. If lesbians and gays are willing to creatively argue the issue - and are willing to be considered "abnormalities" - they may use the interpretation to force employment protections on the federal level.

The new position on genetic abnormalities was included in a technical report quietly released in mid-March, after gaining unanimous approval from the five-member bipartisan Commission. It is the first federal document to declare such discrimination illegal.

Continued on page 26

ACT UP/LA Protests Prez's Visit; k.d. Sings for Him

by Karen Ocamb

Although it's still 18 months away, battle lines are being drawn for the 1996 Presidential election - and campaigner President Bill Clinton is fighting hard for California's crown jewel of electoral votes.

He spent part of the April 8-9 weekend in big-bucks-rich Los Angeles just before Senator Bob Dole, his expected Republican competition, officially announced his already front-runner candidacy.

But Clinton will not have an easy time taking the Golden State. In a speech before the Democratic State Convention in Sacramento on Saturday, April 8 he was well received, but had to plead with delegates to let him speak about his plans to "review" individual Affirmative Action programs while still advocating for "diversity" in the workplace.

The more-liberal-than-Clinton delegates later voted unanimously to uphold the policy in light of an expected Pete Wilson-sponsored initiative that would strike down the policy, which at times gives preferences to women and minorities.

Continued on page 27



Photo: Rick Gerhart

Activists demonstrate April 10 to stop the DEA harassment of the Cannabis Buyers Club.

Cannabis Buyers Tell Feds: Leave Our Medicine Alone

by Dennis Conkin

An afternoon protest by supporters of San Francisco's Cannabis Buyers Club drew a crowd of about 300 people to the Federal Building on Monday, April 10.

The activists later marched from the Federal Building past the new City Hall at 401 Van Ness Street, to the Opera Plaza for a brief rally.

The protest was organized by marijuana activists and others who claim that the CBC, a source of medical cannabis to people with AIDS and other crippling diseases, has been targeted by federal agents from the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Drug Enforcement Agency.

Continued on page 20

House Holds Hearing on Ryan White Reauthorization

by Bob Roehr

The voices of conservative freshman Republican members of Congress dominated hearings on reauthorization of the Ryan White CARE Act on Wednesday, April 5.

The tone was extremely positive

toward the act itself, but pointed toward possibly contentious future action on mandatory HIV testing for pregnant women and regulation of the Food and Drug Administration.

Michael Bilirakis (R-Florida), chairman of the Subcommittee on Health and Environment, observed that it was the group's first meeting on any subject not related to the "Contract with America." More

than a dozen members attended, an unusually large showing for hearings not being televised.

Longtime subcommittee members and supporters Henry Waxman (D-California), its former chairman, and openly gay Gerry Studds (D-Massachusetts) actively questioned witnesses.

But perhaps the most interesting words came from freshman

Continued on page 21

INSIDE THIS WEEK

BarTalk.....	44
Calendar.....	46
Classifieds.....	27
Dykeotomy.....	10
GLAAD.....	12
Letters.....	7
Mr. Marcus.....	48
Obituaries.....	22
Open Forum.....	6
Out There.....	34
Personals.....	51
Queer Watch.....	25
Wayne Friday.....	9

Boxer: Newt Doesn't Have Support for Gay Military Ban

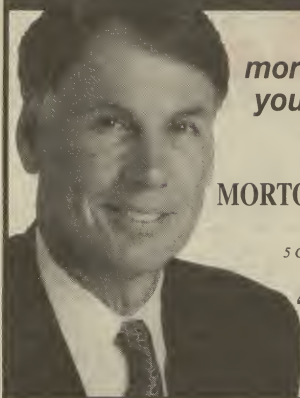
by Karen Ocamb

U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer says that House Speaker Newt Gingrich does not have enough Congressional support to overturn the current "don't ask, don't tell" policy on gays in the military in favor of a legislated ban.

Gingrich had said in an April 2 television interview he expected to hold

Continued on page 14

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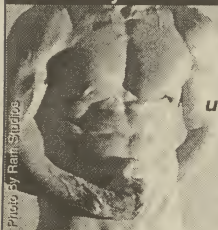
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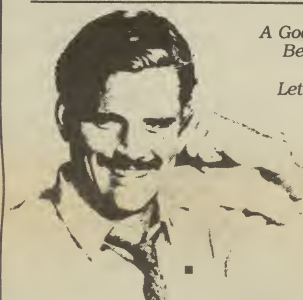


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COMMUNITY NEWS

Meeting Next Wednesday for People Scared of Halloween

by Dennis Conkin

A Town Hall meeting to discuss the future of Halloween in the Castro will be held next Wednesday, April 19 at 7:30 p.m. at Metropolitan Community Church.

The annual Halloween show draws an estimated 500,000 people a year to the neighborhood, but community leaders say that the event has grown too large and too unsafe in recent years. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss a variety of management options for the event.

The meeting was called by a coalition of groups including the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, Community United Against Violence, the Merchants of Upper Market, the Duboce Triangle Neighborhood Association, and other groups.

Supervisor Tom Ammiano and representatives of Supervisor Carole Migden are expected to attend the meeting.

"People who live and work in the neighborhood have complained about the noise and inconvenience the event creates," said Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence spokesnun Daan Van Laarz. "There are major issues of safety in terms of both lives and property."

"This meeting is an opportunity for people to come together to discuss what is working, what isn't, and how we can make it a better event in the future," said Van Laarz.

Last year more than 50 arrests were made during the Halloween celebration, including several arrests for felony weapons and assault charges.

Brian Christiannsen of the Duboce Triangle Neighborhood Association said that there was growing concern about the impact of half a million celebrants on the neighborhood.

"I feel the neighborhood residents, many of whom fear the event, have concluded the neighborhood is too small and vulnerable to handle this event in the future," he said.

"Halloween effects everyone in the community," said Merchants of Upper Market President Barry Hermanson.

"Mainly the meeting has been called to allow everyone the opportunity to express their concerns and their ideas. We want to make sure that we as a community can do the job to make this a safe event," he said.

The annual event is organized by the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, and has included performances and musical entertainment.

Funds for a variety of community groups are raised through voluntary donations from partygoers, who pass through informal gates set up and staffed by volunteers at strategic entrances to the Castro neighborhood during the Halloween event.

Safety arrangements have been usually managed by Community United Against Violence in cooperation with the police. However, last year the group had trouble attracting enough volunteers to adequately monitor the event.

One of the options under discussion, according to Van Laarz, will be the possibility of moving the event to a non-residential part of the city.

Everyone is welcome to attend the meeting at MCC, located at 150 Eureka Street in the Castro. ▼

Gay Democratic Activist Richmond Young Dies at 43

Migden: His Named Deserved To Be in Lights

by Dennis Conkin

Gay community political leader and longtime AIDS activist Richmond Young died April 8, his 43 birthday, of AIDS-related complications.

The former president of the Stonewall Gay Democratic Club, Young was a founding member of the Clinton-Gore Democratic Club and a Clinton delegate to the 1992 Democratic Convention. He was appointed earlier this year as District Attorney Arlo Smith's delegate to the San Francisco Democratic Committee, and previously served as a delegate to the California Democratic Council.

Young also previously served as vice president for political affairs of the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club. In the 1980s, he was extremely active in the Molinari for Mayor and Gary Hart for President political campaigns.

"Richmond Young was one of the most dedicated, thoughtful and compassionate citizens our community has ever known," said Supervisor Angela

Alioto.

Alioto appointed Young to the HIV Youth Advisory Committee in 1993, in recognition of his commitment and concern for youth.

"Through his work on AIDS issues and gay and lesbian rights, Richmond helped make the quality of life for people in San Francisco and throughout California so much better," Alioto told the B.A.R. "His death was needless, and I will personally miss him very much."

Lesbian and gay officials also mourn Young's death.

"He really was one of the most selfless and kind people our community has known," said Supervisor Carole Migden. "His name wasn't necessarily always up there in lights — but it deserved to be, because he was always there to carry our community's issues."

"I'm personally very deeply saddened that we've lost him," Migden said.

Young was a "dedicated and tenacious" gay political leader, said Supervisor Tom Ammiano.

"I always admired and respected Richmond Young,"

Ammiano said. "He had very strong beliefs and convictions, and I admired and respected him. He also kept a sense of humor."

Born in San Francisco, Young was raised and educated in Marin County and worked for many years as legal editor for Commercial Clearing House in San Rafael.

Young was extremely active in Dignity, an organization of gay Roman Catholics, and was preceded in death by his close friend and godfather Kevin Cagari, the former Dignity national president.

Young is survived by his partner of 12 years, Peter Geiger; his sisters, Patsy Griffin Young and Elizabeth Young, both of Sonoma County; his brother John of Lagunitas; and many other relatives and friends.

A Dignity service of remembrance will be held on Sunday, April 23 at 2 p.m. at Seventh Avenue Presbyterian Church, 1329 Seventh Avenue, San Francisco.

Donations are requested to Dignity or Project Open Hand. ▼

San Mateo County AIDS Program Turns Ten

by Kent Brandley

The San Mateo County AIDS Program, the only multi-service AIDS agency in San Mateo County, will mark its tenth anniversary Friday, April 28 from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Kohl Mansion, located at 2750 Adeline Drive in Burlingame.

The anniversary event will include entertainment, a silent auction, "spring millinery," and

gourmet foods. Acknowledgement will be given those who have contributed during a decade of service, including founders Anna Eshoo, Bill Glenn, Rich Gordon, Arlette Grubbe, Tom Nolan, and Margaret Taylor.

The program at 8:30 p.m. will include remarks by Mark Barnes, executive director of the AIDS Action Council. Tickets are \$50 per person. ▼

For information contact Mary or Laura at 573-3955.

COMMUNITY NEWS

'95 Parade Marshals: Sarria, Renteria, Parmar and Gingrich

by Dennis Conklin

United States House of Representatives Speaker Newt Gingrich hopes his half-sister Candace enjoys her stint as a Grand Marshal of San Francisco's 1995 Freedom Day Parade, the largest lesbian and gay pride celebration in the world.

Gingrich, who believes that homosexuality is a condition like alcoholism and recently called for a return to a ban on gays in the military, "thinks it will be a real fun thing for her to do," according to his spokesman, Allan Lipsett.

"He mentioned it briefly," Lipsett told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "Other than that he didn't have any substantive comment."

"He's glad to see his sister enjoying what she's doing."

The Georgia Republican recently called for Congressional hearings on what he called the gay rights "agenda" — including the use of federal funds to provide services such as gay support and crises counseling services in public schools.

Marshals, artists

The three other grand marshals named for this year's celebration are filmmaker Pratibha



Candace Gingrich (left) may be the sister of the speaker, but Jose Sarria (right) is true royalty.



Parmar; Dragonsani Renteria, the director of the San Francisco Deaf Gay and Lesbian Center; and Jose Sarria, the well-known Widow Norton.

Besides her work at DGLC, Renteria is the editor of *CTN*, a newsletter for lesbians and gays with hearing loss. Parmar, now based in London, has made such award-winning films as *Khush*, about South African gays and lesbians, and *Warrior Marks*, in collaboration with writer Alice

Walker. That film examines the practice of female genital mutilation, such as clitoridectomy and vulvectomy, around the world.

Sarria, an entertainer in San Francisco and venues during the 1950s, was the first openly gay man to run for San Francisco supervisor, in 1961. He is currently working on his autobiography.

The June 18 parade is expected to draw a half million people to the anniversary celebration. ▼

SF Provides Help for PFLAG's Project Open Mind

by Kent Brandley

San Francisco's Columbia Foundation has awarded \$50,000 to Project Open Mind, a national multimedia campaign designed to change negative public perceptions of gay men and lesbians. Project Open Mind is a public relations project of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG).

PFLAG also received substantial help for Project Open Mind from San Francisco's Colin Higgins Foundation, which gave \$10,000, administered by the Tides Foundation, according to information in the *PFLAGpole*, the quarterly publication of Parents, Families and Friends of

Lesbians and Gays.

"The Columbia Foundation is delighted to be able to make this contribution to PFLAG's essential work of understanding and acceptance of people. Project Open Mind has tremendous potential to make a major shift in the mainstream public's perception of lesbians and gay men, and to lay the groundwork for a harmonious existence of non-gay and gay communities," said Susan Silk, executive director of the Columbia Foundation.

Project Open Mind focus groups were conducted in Houston, Atlanta and Tulsa earlier this year, and the Project Open Mind creative team is developing the message, advertisements, and materials for the public relations campaign. ▼

Fraud Task Force Issues Warning On AIDS Ads

According to David J. Martin, chair of the California AIDS Fraud Task Force, as much as \$10 million was spent on fraudulent AIDS/HIV health care products and treatments last year.

Martin said that figure includes advocates of traditional as well as alternative healthcare, and urges readers to protect themselves since newspapers

(including the *Bay Area Reporter*) cannot absolutely determine the integrity of those placing ads.

Martin suggests that people consult their healthcare professionals before using any treatment, and says, "There is not yet a cure for HIV/AIDS. Any claim to the contrary is fraudulent."

According to the CAFTE,

which is funded by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, fraudulent advertising can induce those with HIV disease or AIDS to jeopardize their health and squander their money on worthless or harmful products or treatments. ▼

For more information contact the California AIDS Fraud Task Force at 1-800-459-4503.

Supportive Circle of Square Dancers To Gather Monday

by Kent Brandley

Next Monday, April 17 Western Star Dancers — a square dance club for the lesbian and gay community and their friends — will start a new basic square dance class.

Classes provides a friendly, social, fun way to meet people and get exercise, says Gary Gray, administrator of the non-profit social group.

Dance classes will be held at Eureka Valley Recreation Center, located at Collingwood and 18th Street in the Castro District.

The first two classes will be free. Those who become enthused and wish to continue will be asked to pay \$45 for completion of the basic class. That will take a little over three months, Gray said. The fee covers rent, newsletter, and other costs, he indicated.

After basic instruction participants can get into

"mainstream" and "plus" categories — and even beyond, Gray said, although he did not elaborate on what that might be.

The classes will be taught in a warm, supportive, substance-free environment every Monday from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., Gray indicated.

Instructor/caller for the classes will be Ron Masker, an experienced caller using the callerlab format, recognized by square dance clubs internationally, Gray said.

Western Star Dancers is a founding member of the IAGSDC™ (International Association of Gay Square Dance Clubs), Gray added. That club will hold this year's convention in Chicago over the Memorial Day Weekend. ▼

For more information call Gary Gray at (415) 621-6506.

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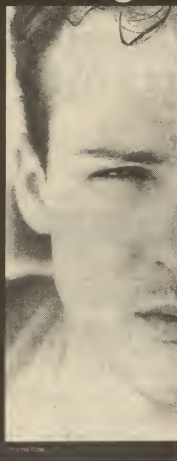
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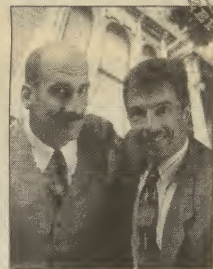
Phil Vanhook, The Donahue Show, December 1992



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COMMUNITY NEWS



Photo: Rick Gerhart

The Shadow of Your Smile

Beauty is truly bargain basement as Sami Jo Steele, winner of the \$1.98 "Beauty" Pageant at the N'Touch April 9, flashes her winning smile after hearing the good news. Six contestants vied for the honor of being the first Miss \$1.98 and receiving the grand prize of an overnight stay at the Parc Oakland Hotel. All proceeds benefited the Asian AIDS Project.

Sissy Spaceout Dies at 39

by Dennis Conkin

Sissy Spaceout, Empress XX de San Francisco, died of AIDS-related complications at San Francisco General Hospital on Saturday, April 8.

A 14-year resident of San Francisco, Spaceout was born Steven Craig Lindsay on December 11, 1955 in Portland, Oregon.

Lindsay reigned as head of the San Francisco Imperial Court system in 1984.

"He was one of the youngest Emperors ever elected," said Bill Harrison, also known as Ginger XIII, a former Empress of the ICS.

"The first time I met him was at the Twin Peaks Bar in the Castro," Harrison recalled. "We had a political argument - and were friends ever since."

Harrison told the *Bay Area Reporter* that Lindsay approached him "out of the blue" in 1983, and asked for help in entering the race for Empress.

"I told him he'd never been in drag before, but he said never mind that, he wanted me to help him. So I did," Harrison said.

The 1983 race had five candidates, and Lindsay lost.

"Remy beat him," Harrison said. "But he ran again the next year and won hands down. It was an era of outlandish cos-



The bedazzling Sissy Spaceout (right) at an imperial function in the late '80s and in suit-and-tie drag at left.



Photo: Darlene/Photo Graphics

tumes and actions and a great deal of attention to various charities in the city."

Lindsay also served on the boards of a variety of community groups including the Cable Car Awards, the Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Parade Celebration, and the Tavern Guild Foundation.

Lindsay made real efforts to make sure that all segments of the lesbian and gay community, from women to leather groups, received equal representation and treatment, according to his

longtime friend Hydrie Downard.

Preceded in death by his mother Dorothy, Lindsay is survived by his lover Dylan Norton; his father and stepmother, Don and Helen Lindsay of North Carolina; a brother, Scott Lindsay of Rio Vista, California; and many friends and associates.

A high Imperial Court state funeral and memorial service is scheduled for Saturday, April 22 at Trinity Episcopal Church at Gough and Bush. Sissy will be in drag. ▼

Temporary Restraining Order Revoked in 'Stalking'

by Kent Brandley

A Superior Court judge has thrown out a case brought by a bisexual San Francisco man who claims a former friend is stalking him, but the plaintiff has since filed an amended order to show cause for harassment.

A Friday, April 7 Superior

Court hearing determined that plaintiff James A. Carney, Jr. failed to establish "clear and convincing evidence" that he was being stalked by Contra Costa Deputy Mark A. Windeler, and the case was thereby dismissed. The court also revoked a temporary restraining order against Windeler.

However, on Monday, April 10 Carney filed an amended order to show cause, demanding that Windeler appear again at 9 a.m. on April 28 - before the same judge - on the same matter. Carney says technicalities resulted in the case being thrown out.

Windeler, who is on duty
Continued on page 26

Thank You, Senator Marks! State Senate Considers Broadening Hate Crimes Bill

by Dennis Conklin

Criminals who damage private institutional or public property in hate-motivated attacks could be charged with hate crimes under new legislation that passed out of the state Senate's Criminal Procedure committee last week. Senate Bill 911, authored by state Senator Milton Marks of San Francisco, would close a loophole in California hate crimes statutes and also allow the governor to issue rewards in unsolved hate crimes.

Marks's legislation was spurred by a widely reported vandalism attack by Stanford University student athletes and fraternity members against the university's world-famous gay and lesbian pride sculpture last April.

Although felony vandalism charges were filed against two students because damage to the famed George Segal sculpture exceeded \$10,000, the Santa Clara County District Attorney's office was unable to file hate crimes charges in the anti-gay incident.

"Under current law, hate crimes are limited to individual victims and their property. Senator Marks's legislation would create a new category of hate crime to protect the property of public or private institutions from hate motivated violence," said Mike Bosia, Marks's San Francisco chief of staff.

The legislation now goes to the Senate Appropriations Committee and will be considered by the full Senate in May.

"The Stanford incident brought to our attention a serious deficiency that could be exploited by hate groups and chill cooperation between coalitions advocating for civil rights," said Bosia.

He said current law failed to protect institutions like grassroots community centers that provide offices to a variety of civil rights groups, which leaves them vulnerable to attack.

Although such property crimes are currently charged without hate crimes enhancements, the addition of such charges will lengthen jail sentences by up to three years.

Bosia is senior consultant to Marks's subcommittee on hate crimes, and is the prime author of the legislation, which was drafted in consultation with local hate crimes experts.

The measure would also allow the governor to authorize rewards of up to \$50,000 in hate motivated attacks based on race, religion, and sexual orientation, said local hate violence expert Jill Tregor.

Tregor, the executive director of Intergroup Clearinghouse, a hate violence reduction group, cited the attempted murder of Victor Rohana in an anti-gay shooting incident last October as the kind of hate crime that justified such a large award.

Tregor said police believe the attempted murder may have been gang-related, and even the \$25,000 award offered by Mayor Frank Jordan and



Sen. Milton Marks

District Attorney Arlo Smith was not enough to convince

someone connected to a gang to risk their life and turn in the perpetrators.

"The police department feels very strongly that if such a significant reward had been offered, someone would have stepped forward," Tregor said.

Tregor and Community United Against Violence director Lester Olmsted-Rose both testified before the subcommittee about the need for the legislation.

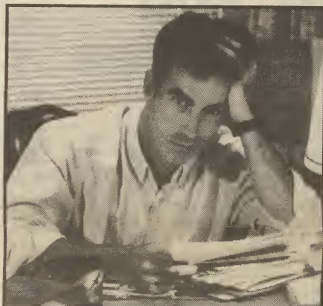
In cases where prison sentences are not appropriate, according to Tregor, Marks's proposed law would require individuals convicted of hate crimes to receive "prejudice reduction" counseling and would require community service and restitution as part of their probation. ▼



America's Most Wanted To Air Rohana Case Saturday

The weekly television show *America's Most Wanted* will broadcast a re-enactment of the Victor Rohana shooting at 9 p.m. Saturday, April 15, on KTVU, Channel 2 in San Francisco. The national broadcast will ask viewers to help locate the two men — last seen driving a white Suzuki Samurai — who shot Rohana on Waller Street last October 28, apparently for holding hands in public.

A fund to help Rohana pay medical and other bills has been established. Contributions may be mailed or dropped off to Jack Gilmore at the California Federal Bank, 444 Castro Street, San Francisco CA 94114.



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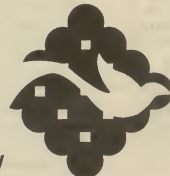
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CARTOON



EDITORIAL

Still Taxation, Still Without Representation

Whoever first made the statement "You get what you pay for" almost certainly didn't say it around tax time.

Or else they weren't gay. In case it had escaped anyone's attention, it's time to face the annual drudgery of tabulating taxes — and then sending them to the IRS to be distributed to those who hate us and litigate against us. And if conservatives think they have reason to complain about high taxes, we invite them to consider how we feel, knowing how many of our dollars will go to fund the so-called Justice Department's ongoing defense of the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" military ban, and to the Pentagon that promulgated it.

At the same time, an ever-diminishing amount will go to schools, whose job it is to teach American children something the Republicans don't want mentioned these days: that taxation without representation is tyranny.

Lon Mabon of the mis-named Colorado for Family Values (backers of the state's anti-gay Amendment Two) is quoted in the most recent issue of the always entertaining *Monk* magazine as saying books like *Heather Has Two Mommies* (poor beleaguered thing) have no place in public libraries. We disagree, based on simple math.

According to statistics we consider the most reliable to date, approximately nine percent of the population is lesbian or gay, and they are paid, on average, about 20 percent less than heterosexuals. Fundamentalists counter that we are only about one percent, and make about 30 percent more. But in any case, one can deduce that we pay between 1.3 and 7.2 percent of the taxes in this country (except, of course, that the rules are slanted toward families — and are set to get even more so — so the percentage is even higher).

Now that that is established, it puts the Amendment Two question into a new context. That ballot measure and its various clones mandate taxation without representation when they attempt to remove gay studies and books from publicly-funded schools and libraries. (They call it "promoting" homosexuality.) Knowing what we know, it's obvious that in the interest of fairness and representation somewhere between 1.3 and 7.2 library books should be on lesbian and gay subjects; a similar percentage of history class time should be about lesbian and gay history; and that number of teachers and counselors should be homosexual.

We can't stop thinking about percentages, probably because of the tax forms we're faced with, but also possibly because of the elections that were held in Los Angeles Tuesday.

As usual, an appallingly low number of registered voters were practicing voters — fewer than 12 percent, in fact. That is obscene. Some countries penalize citizens who don't take democracy seriously enough to make it to the polls; we're warming to the idea of implementing similar measures here. It is probably wrong to hand out cash at the ballot box, but perhaps those who can prove they participated in the process could get a tax — *there's that word again* — break.

(But that's a problem, too. Tax breaks for families, as pushed by the GOP, aren't going to help the poorest families and the ones that need help most. Those families are living in their cars and only dreaming of jobs where taxpaying could be a possibility.)

Low election turnouts can be disastrous for us, as we learned last November when the GOP sweep threatened to destroy our way of life. It has done so in a variety of ways, of course, the most recent of which is by making us consider the possibility that the always annoying Newt Gingrich will continue to be both Speaker of the House and Talker on the TV.

His "I-am-not-a-presidential-candidate-but-I-play-one-on-television" appearance last Friday was meant to be calming, as far as we could tell, but was spooky and unearthly. *Did anyone else notice how much he looked like Pat Robertson?* We chalk it up to the phenomenon that people start to look like their pets; all we want to know now is who's holding which end of that leash.

His overly made-up face and artificial manner fit in perfectly with the rest of the program, all of which was about initial cosmetic appearance instead of the smelly mess underneath. For those who (mercifully) missed it, Newt had the slick patter of a crooked aluminum siding salesman who will disappear just before the walls come tumbling down — and why shouldn't he, with a contract that unfair in his pocket?

As he proudly went over the things he and his gang have done in the last 100 days, we wondered if he really can't see the cataclysm that full ratification of the contract would bring about. And as he displayed his copy of it, we remembered two lines from Cyndi Lauper's 911: "You can't wrap fire in paper/And you can't rap your way out of here." ▼

GUEST OPINION

We All Share the Job of Prevention

by Patrick Barresi, John Biasatti, Kent Blackford, David Boyer, Rob Bregoff, Charles Brinamen, Brian Corr, Reid Davis, Matthew Denckla, Grant Duncan, David Elard, Espen, L. Brandon Espinosa, Reginald Gage, Steven B. Gibson, Mark Gordon, Bob Gross, Richard Guth, Kent Halnebach, Alan Hayes, Jackson J. Hoitz, Tracey Huenemann, Jon Huggett, Jim Kirkwood, Shaun LaRon, Tom Lindsay, Marcus Loy, Jerry Maynard, Alberto Mendoza, Clark Moore, Lance McDaniell, Robert A. Perez, Michael Rordan, Toni Lee Robinson, Mark Rumpier, L. Frank Salisbury II, Josh Schechtel, Elle Serfaty, Fredric Sonenberg, Johnny Symons, David Spruill, Stacy Switzer, Jerry Turner, Douglas T. Wagers, Robert V. Walker, Louis Wechsler, Dan Wohlfeller, Neil Yoskowitz, Stop AIDS Project/Q Action; Thomas J. Coates, Ph.D., Director, and Ron Stall, Ph.D., MPH, Center for AIDS Prevention Studies.

For the past 14 years in San Francisco, we've been living a fundamental contradiction. On one hand we've been telling people with HIV that they have a long life ahead, and that they can thrive. On the other hand, we've been trying to convince men not to pass on or get HIV, because it's a fatal disease.

This is just one of the reasons it's been hard to focus our energies on HIV prevention. How can we take care of the sick and the well at the same time?

The answer is not easy, but it's simple: we must. For unless we redouble our efforts to stop the spread of HIV, we risk losing a whole new generation to the same tragedy that many of us already face on a daily, nightmarish basis.

But whose job is it? And what can be done? The job is all of ours. It's up to each and every one of us, whether we're HIV-negative or HIV-positive or we don't know our status. Whether we own a gay newspaper, or we work or volunteer for an AIDS agency, or we serve drinks at a bar, or work in a bank, or sell dresses, or cut hair. It's important that we let our friends and lovers know that we care about them and we want them to care about us. The benefits far outweigh the discomfort we may feel in asking each other if we're staying safe, or encouraging each other to do so.

We've shown ourselves that prevention can make a difference. That we are capable of reducing our risk in dramatic ways. The data show it clearly: while 8,000 gay men became infected each year in the early '80s, 650 will likely become infected this year. That's obviously a vast improvement, but there is much more to be done.

What can we do? There is, again, no easy answer. There are certainly tools we can and do use: outreach, small group workshops, community-organizing with merchants, referrals, media, one-on-one peer and professional counseling. We have more services available in San Francisco than most places in the world. We have a system that, despite imperfections, allows different organizations to play to their strengths and coordinate with each other. The HIV Prevention Planning Council is working to make sure that we spend our very few dollars as well as we can. One thing is certain: if we rely exclusively on agencies to meet our needs, and don't take the responsibility to take care of ourselves, we'll lose the war.

No single solution will work. There is no silver bullet. That's because for some of us, a simple brochure was enough to get us to stay safe; for others, it took a group workshop; for others, even individual therapy hasn't been enough. It's also because some of us are young, and just now learning what we want from sex and our partners and how to assert ourselves. Many of us are dulling our sense of pain through drugs and alcohol, which impair our judgment. Others of us are men of color who have felt that AIDS programs had little relevance to our needs. Still others of us are grieving over innumerable and painful losses and have given up hope and the will to survive.

But that doesn't mean we have to start from scratch. To the contrary, we need to constructively look at our successes and our failures, at what we've done well that we can build on and what we need to do better. To ignore both our collective experience, and that of years of research into health promotion, would be an arrogant and tragic mistake.

No one ever said it was going to be easy, but unless we make prevention a priority, it'll get a lot harder. Join us. ▼

If you want help talking with your own friends, clients, or co-workers about how you can all stay safe, and help others do the same, call STOP AIDS at (415) 621-7177. Among other things, we can offer to facilitate a discussion for you. STOP AIDS can also refer you to one of the many agencies that can address different needs, whether or not directly related to HIV.

LETTERS

GLAAD All Over: Not the Same

Inside the April 6 edition, a B.A.R. headline noted that "almost half a million dollars" was raised at the annual GLAAD Media Awards in Los Angeles. Another story ran on the B.A.R.'s front page in December 1994, heralded by a huge banner headline announcing that Barbra Streisand would be hosting a screening of her film *Serving in Silence* to "benefit GLAAD."

Neither of these news stories distinguished between the GLAAD national organization, which is headquartered in New York and Los Angeles, and the San Francisco Bay Area chapter that serves this community. It is vital for B.A.R. readers to understand that *none* of the money raised at these events benefited this chapter; rather, these fundraisers and others like them provide a major part of the support for work being done by GLAAD elsewhere.

The December story was extremely prominent even to a person only glancing at the paper. We have reason to believe that that piece, which appeared during peak charitable giving season, may have caused folks who receive numerous end-of-the-year appeals to believe that we at GLAAD/SFBA were rolling in money and did not need any of the limited funds each person has available to support queer activism. Believe me, nothing could be further from the truth, and we fear that the recent story will only reinforce this misimpression. As we battle the rise of hate radio and the radical right in general, strive to encourage fair and accurate representations of our lives, and empower this community with the information necessary for critical media consumption and activism (see our column in this very newspaper!), we need the generous support of all who can give it more than ever.

**Laurie Falik, Chair
Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against
Defamation/San Francisco Bay Area**

[The editor responds: Generally we identify GLAAD/SFBA as either "GLAAD/SFBA" or "SF GLAAD" in headlines, and the national organization as "GLAAD." We will evaluate that policy, and apologize if we caused any confusion. In the meantime, we heartily endorse the wonderful work done by the local organization and the national one; we suggest everyone support them as much as possible.]

No Bear Hugs Here

In Response to Mr. David Magennis ("Bears' Treasurer Responds"):

Mr. Magennis is a thief and a liar. The Pacific Bears California sued Mr. Magennis for \$3,000, (not \$5,000), and won! Mr. Magennis stole over \$8,000 from our club, and from charity. We would not know how much money we made that year as none of it ever reached the bank!

This kind of thief should never be allowed to be around any charities' moneys ever again.

David, how about the \$3000 from the A.E.F.? Did that money also go to buy your new love nest?

Appeal your ass off. One San Francisco Judge has said you're guilty, and I'm quite sure that the Superior Court Judge is going to find the same way.

Hold on to your ass, honey, we are not done with you yet!

The Pacific Bears California L/MC

Gay Judicial History

I wanted to write and correct some historical information contained in your February 16th article about Kay Tsenin's announcement that she will run for the Municipal Court in 1996. Mary Morgan was the first open lesbian to ever be appointed or elected to the bench, anywhere in the United States, when she was appointed to the San Francisco Municipal Court in 1981. She was also the first person from the lesbian and gay community to become a judge in San Francisco. Herb Donaldson was appointed, as an openly gay man, the year after Mary Morgan's appointment. My election to the Superior Court followed Mary's appointment by almost ten years.

Thanks for the opportunity to clear this up.
**Donna J. Hitchens
San Francisco**

Wake up to what GOPs Are Really Like

Log Cabin/San Francisco is disappointed (once again) by Governor Wilson's unwarranted move on adoption (March 13). His action denies unmarried couples (including gay and lesbian couples) the right to adopt children even though they may provide as healthy and nurturing an environment as married couples. The original policy adopted by Wilson's Department of Social Services recognized that the needs of the children were paramount, not an arbitrary and outmoded standard of parental fitness.

Wilson's actions revealing the new adoption policy feeds into the ugly stereotype that gay people are unfit to be around children; it also feeds the stereotype that gays cannot love or nurture.

This can be seen as another effort to appease the sensitivities of a Lou Sheldon in Wilson's quest for the Presidency. If Pete Wilson is truly a compassionate conservative or Republican moderate, he should act like one. We do not need another Pat Buchanan in the Presidential Sweepstakes.

**Steve Fong
President, Log Cabin Club of SF**

South Dakota Darling

Just a note of thanks and gratitude for your piece on South Dakota's marriage battle. It was very well written - which is par for the course for you - and sparked numerous calls from activists and other media seeking more information and involvement. I appreciate the B.A.R.'s coverage of this critical issue and your reporting of it in particular.

**Robt. Bray
National Gay & Lesbian Task Force**

Landlord Woes

Misinformation continues on Proposition I. Are roommates covered or not? Attorney Stephen Collier (Letters, March 9) quotes a portion of the ordinance which infers that they are not. When several other attorneys gave me this advice, I wrote to City Attorney Louise Renne and was told "The Ordinance has always applied to individuals who rent rooms in their homes, but prior to Prop. I, there was an exception for those who rented fewer than four rooms. That exception no longer exists." The Rent Board has also confirmed this to be true. Thus, if I rent you a bedroom in my home, you are my tenant and covered by the ordinance! Of course, there is a way around it. If your entire home is shared equally by all roommates, then you would probably be exempt, and the city attorney has recommended that I have all my roommates sign a statement to this effect. The problem is, without written rental agreements, which few of us have, the decision as to whether you are "sharing the house" or merely "renting a room," if contested, is subject to the decision of the Rent Board. We all know that when relationships deteriorate, a "sharing roommate" could easily become a "boarder," so when you finally get the nerve to ask him to leave, the law says you cannot do so, and you, the homeowner or master tenant in a low-rent flat, can no longer choose with whom you share your bathroom.

**Bill Trumbo
San Francisco**

[Please see below.]

More On Prop I

I would like to take this opportunity to clear up several misconceptions about recent changes made by the voters in our rent control laws. Proposition I expands the protections of the Rent Stabilization Ordinance to owner occupied buildings with four or less rental units previously exempt from rent controls. The voters adopted Proposition I in November.

I strongly supported this change, which received its highest numbers of votes from lesbian and gay identified precincts. Some misguided individuals have reported that Proposition I in some way negatively impacts lesbian and gay tenants when the exact opposite is the truth.

At a hearing before the Board's Housing and Land Use Committee on Thursday March 9, 1995 both the city attorney and the Director of the Rent Stabilization Board again testified that nothing in Proposition I prevented domestic partners from moving in to displace roommates or changed the ability of individual property owners or master tenants to choose roommates in their own dwelling. Several witnesses cited specific language in the rent ordinance that exempted roommates from the "just cause" eviction requirement of the law. The city attorney's office also confirmed this exception to "just cause" eviction requirements for roommates.

The lack of specific language equating domestic partners and spouses is in the rent ordinance adopted in 1979 and amended in 1984. This was because domestic partners registration only began in 1991. In my third month in office, I am working with my colleagues to amend the law to include equality for domestic partners.

I hope that this information clears up any misunderstanding about Proposition I and how it effects lesbian and gay tenants.

**Supervisor Tom Ammiano
San Francisco**

The Colorado Appeal

As you have reported, the U.S. Supreme Court has agreed to hear an appeal of the Colorado Supreme Court decision that Colorado Amendment 2 is unconstitutional, void, and of no effect.

The State of Colorado is making the appeal. This may be appropriate (even if it is our money) because it's the voters who adopted the amendment. The State Attorney General is Gail Norton (BIG R). The appeal will be vigorous.

However, the Constitutional arguments regarding equal protection are so clear that I think there is little reason for concern. In fact, it will be good to have a national decision. No more foolishness like the rash of proposed similar amendments before and in the last election.

I would like people to know that an equal rights ordinance (including sexual orientation, like race, creed, etc.) is in effect in the Town of Crested Butte (once my home), as well as in Denver, Boulder, and Aspen.

Of course we are displeased with the popular vote, especially in Colorado Springs. But I am proud to be from Colorado and Crested Butte in particular.

**Dan McCord
San Francisco
Continued on page 8**

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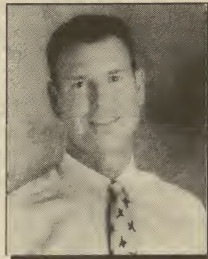
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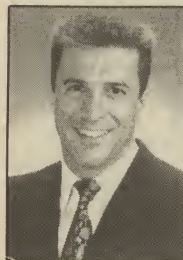
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LETTERS

Continued from page 7

Mourning Gardens

All good things must come to an end. Time marches on. Here today, gone tomorrow. Whatever the trite saying used, I find it sad that The Castro Gardens Restaurant is no more. Sold several months back, the restaurant has seen such changes as new staff, then a depleted menu, and now a totally new menu accompanied by a new name (Luna Piena).

But is it better, you may ask? It's better if you like only a few choices for breakfast. It's better if you never again wanted to have scrambled eggs or omelets (with your choice of ingredients) for breakfast or brunch. It's better if you think a scone is something around which to build an entree. It's better only if you want a Pacific Heights menu and Pacific Heights prices in the Castro. And it's better if you wanted your favorite mother who never nagged (Carol, or Missy if you knew her) to be fired (no, she didn't quit).

Sure, there are those who might say "At last" to all this. Sure, I can handle change (although I usually left it behind as I rounded the tip up to the next whole dollar). But for some 7 years I have loved eating at the (now former) Castro Gardens, where the greeting was always personal, the staff became friends and my gay sensibilities were reflected in how the staff was allowed to dress and comport themselves (hot pants, expressive jewelry and Easter bonnets have given way to the yuppie-prototypical long-sleeve white shirt/black slacks uniform). Sure, I used to enjoy eating outdoors in their garden setting, but I don't think it's worth the price I now have to pay for it. Perhaps, however, the restaurant's new name says it all: Luna Piena means, I am told, "full moon" ... yup, that's what I feel has been given to me and to our neighborhood.

Bob Lehr
San Francisco

Leather Notes From All Over

As East Bay leather "veterans of the area," and as founding and involved members of the Alameda County Leather Corps, we are unaware of any "forced alignment" of our club with the East Bay Court system. These two independent organizations—the Alameda County Leather Corps and the Imperial Star Empire—proudly support each others' events, to the benefit of the East Bay community. Meanwhile, in terms of hot leather action, Leather Corps events like our recent Shaving and Waxing Party have been pushing the envelope of kinky entertainment while expanding education on the leather lifestyle. We definitely put the bad in "We're bad, we're countywide."

San Francisco clubs that invite East Bay leather people to join them honor our local community. We hope the new pledges to their club proud, in keeping with the reputation Alameda County titleholders are honored to enjoy.

We have welcomed to the Leather Corps people involved in the court system who now want to explore the leather lifestyle. Meanwhile, we have lost a member who has gone on to do drag entertainment. We wish him success in any endeavor to benefit the community that he might undertake.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to ill-informed rumors. We hope your readers will be relieved to know the only nastiness going on in the Leather Corps is in negotiated scenes.

Randy Wright
Mr. Alameda County Leather 1993-94
Beth Elliott
Ms. Alameda County Leather 1993-94

Constitution Defiler

[The following letter was sent to Gov. Wilson:]

I am appalled by your attempt to change the California state constitution in reference to the secession of Lt. Governor to Governor. The people of California elected Lt. Gov. Gray Davis to act as Governor in your absence and complete your term should you for any reason leave office. This move is clearly to benefit your expected run for the White House and the Republican party.

When former Governor Jerry Brown ran for President, former Lt. Governor Mike Curb acted like a kid in a candy store, vetoing legislation that Gov. Brown supported and generally running the state as he pleased in the Governor's absence. If ever a sitting Governor had reason to want to change the constitution, it was Jerry Brown. But he had respect for our constitution and the will of the voters. You do not.

What you and the Republican party are trying to pull over on the people of California is a travesty.

Ronny Marshall
San Francisco

Thumper

Does anyone other than me think that "Kato" Kaelin should be performing at the Campus Theatre? He could star in a show titled "Thump, Thump, Thump on the wall."

Mike Blackstone
San Francisco

[In a word, as far as we know, no.]

Bad Experience at Golden Gate U.

I would like to congratulate Allan Gidley for receiving the Golden Gate University Alumni Association's Distinguished Service Award (Kent Brandley, "Gidley Honored by Golden Gate U." March 2). Gidley's work

is a testimony to the compassion and generosity of our community.

However, I must take exception to his characterization of Golden Gate University as "supportive, enlightened, and progressive." As an employee with AIDS at Golden Gate University, I experienced a rare blend of ignorance and ineptness. During my exit interview, before leaving on disability, I was intentionally given inaccurate information concerning the terms and conditions of my employee benefits. When I was later denied Golden Gate University's disability insurance because of a pre-existing condition clause, I found the Office of Faculty and Staff Human Resources/EEO to be anything but supportive. In fact, several employees have contacted me to offer advice and support; yet they have insisted on anonymity because they fear retribution from that Office.

As Golden Gate University casts about for sorely needed foundation grants and alumni donors, one should expect more sunny press releases. Let's be clear about one thing: in spite of the kind actions of individuals, the administration of Golden Gate University is no friend to people with AIDS. Finally, I would like to urge gay and lesbian alumni to donate money to an AIDS charity in lieu of contributions to Golden Gate University; the University must realize that AIDS discrimination is never cost-effective.

David O'Connor
Oakland, CA

Just Rewards

[The following letter was sent to the Editor of the San Francisco Chronicle:]

Isn't it just too bad that Britain is outraged at the exposing of gay church leaders (*Chronicle*, March 27). Many gay priests and bishops are homophobic and continue to vote for anti-homosexual measures in the synods of the Church of England. Outing is a just reward for such hypocrisy.

Lives of gay/lesbian human beings are crippled by living in the closet. Secrecy keeps one guarded, uncreative, and ingrown. Covert lives breed liars and dissemblers. Peter Tachell, leader of OutRage, deserves kudos for his bravery in confronting the closeted clerics of Great Britain. I hope some of the gay/lesbian Bishops of the Episcopal Church in the United States get outed.

Robert Warren Cromeey
Rector, Trinity Episcopal Church

Wilson's Reversal

As a board member of the Lesbian and Gay Rights Chapter (LGRC) of the American Civil Liberties Union of Northern California, I read with interest the B.A.R.'s article about Governor Wilson's reinstatement of the former policy against adoption by unmarried couples. Unfortunately, the article omitted some important facts.

In 1987, the Department of Social Services (DSS) violated many procedural requirements of the California Government Code when it established the former adoption policy by merely sending out an all county letter. (See Gov. Code, § 11346 et seq. [procedures for establishing administrative regulations].) This policy compelled all licensed adoption agencies and the DSS to recommend against any adoption by an unmarried couple, regardless of the child's best interest.

In 1993 and 1994, the LGRC worked to change the policy. Board members of the LGRC circulated a petition, met several times with high-level DSS officials, and formally challenged the policy.

In response to the LGRC's efforts, the DSS changed the policy in December 1994. The 1994 policy required all licensed adoption agencies and the DSS to apply to adoption by an unmarried couple the same standard used for adoption by a married couple: the child's best interest. In putting forward the 1994 policy, the DSS specifically conceded that the 1987 policy should have been established as a regulation in compliance with Government Code provisions. Also, the DSS stated that the 1987 policy was not appropriate and should be discontinued.

Governor Wilson's recent reversal of the 1994 policy reflects bigotry against lesbian and gay couples, who cannot marry under current law. Also, the reinstatement of the 1987 policy is illegal because the 1987 policy was never properly promulgated.

Mark Hartman
Berkeley, CA

[Thanks for filling in the blanks.]

The B.A.R. welcomes letters to the editor.

Letters must be signed and mailed; anonymous and faxed letters will not be published. Please include your mailing address and telephone number so we may verify your letter—this information will not be published.

In order to print as many views as possible, we ask letter writers to be brief. To promote diversity in the Open Forum, we favor letters from writers who do not appear frequently, over repeated correspondence from a single author.

We prefer that letters be typewritten and double-spaced; handwritten letters will be considered for publication only if clearly legible. Letters may be edited for length or other appropriate consideration; we reserve the right to refuse publication of any letter. ▼

The Roberta Factor

When former Supervisor Roberta Achtenberg, now an assistant secretary at the Department of Housing and Urban Development in D.C. (the highest-ranking position held by a gay or lesbian in the Clinton administration), suddenly began calling just about anyone who is anyone on the

Although Roberta Achtenberg would have to come back here soon to get a real campaign under way, some gays and lesbians are telling me that they would immediately turn to her; that cannot make Willie Brown or Angela Alioto very happy. If the former supe cannot be talked out of entering the mayoral fray (and the effort is being strongly made by some) and Alioto, Agnos, and/or Willie Brown jump in as well, Frank Jordan would take the moderate vote and probably become the runoff favorite. One checkbook Democrat told me this week that he has become so annoyed at the scrambling of "liberal" candi-

identally, was overheard telling District Attorney Arlo Smith that "you most definitely have my endorsement for re-election."

Fighting the good fight: Angela Lansbury, Bernadette Peters, and Stephen Sondheim himself joined many other Broadway stars last Saturday night at Carnegie Hall to perform the great composer's music. The event raised more than \$650,000 for the Gay Men's Health Crisis. If you didn't make it, don't worry: Columbia Records did, and a video of the evening will be shown on PBS later.

And in LA on the same night, Bette Midler, Melissa Etheridge, Melissa Manchester and other singing stars put on a concert at the Wilshire Theatre that brought in \$360,000 for the LA Shanti Project. Elizabeth Taylor was ill and couldn't attend - but sent a personal check for more than \$50,000.

Massachusetts Congressman Gerry Studds and Supe Carole Migden will be speakers at an April 29 testimonial dinner hosted by the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of the National Lawyers Guild honoring one of the truly good guys, attorney Tom Steele. (There's a whole story about the great guy on page 16 of this issue, by the way.)

Friends of Kay Tsenin, a candidate for Municipal Court judge, are holding a reception/fundraiser for her April 23 at 300 Anza Street. Donations of \$25 on up are requested (668-0410).

The Golden Gate Demo League is holding a reception/fundraiser for Arlo Smith's re-election campaign Thursday, April 20, at Raffles' Polynesian Restaurant (1390 Market St., 5:30-7:30 p.m., 931-7896 or 587-9315 for info).

My good friends Kevin Wadsworth and Paul Johnson in Placerville could do worse than have former L.A. Dodger star Steve Sax as their new Assemblyman. Sax is running for that El Dorado County seat next year and should be a refreshing change - the homophobic David Knowles is getting the heave-ho due to term limits legislation.

Candace Gingrich, the lesbian sister of House Speaker Newt Gingrich, has agreed to be one of the grand marshals in the SF Lesbian Gay Freedom Day Parade this June. She still claims her right-wing brother "is misinformed about homosexuality, not anti-gay." Take a closer look, dear.

More than a couple of people have pointed out that if Frank Jordan gets re-elected this November and Supes Carole Migden and Kevin Shelley move up to the Assembly next year, Jordan would then have not one but two supervisorial slots to fill.

Are we supposed to be surprised that Pope John Paul II once again recently declared contraception, sterilization, and abortion to regulate childbirth "morally unacceptable?" And a happy Easter to you, too, your Holiness. ▼

Commentary

San Francisco political scene to inform them that she was going to run for mayor of our fair city, she threw a big political monkey wrench into an already murky race.

Achtenberg, who resigned from the Board of Supervisors in the middle of her term to take the HUD job, needed the help of a lot of big-name politicians (Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer, to name a couple) to gain confirmation in the Senate by a 53-31 vote, after one of the most bitter debates ever seen on the Senate floor. Many are voicing annoyance (to put it mildly) that she is now leaving her post after only two years to make a run for SF's highest office.

Angela Alioto has already announced her designs on the job once held by her father and claims that Achtenberg's candidacy is only going to help current Mayor Frank Jordan and will be viewed by locals as "a purely ambitious move." Alioto would have the most to lose if Roberta runs. The supervisor relies heavily on the women's vote as well as the gay/lesbian vote.

Other potential candidates (former Mayor Art Agnos, for example) who are waiting for Willie Brown to make up his mind, are also reportedly unhappy about Achtenberg's decision. Brown, who says he will let the world know sometime next month if he wants to be our mayor, could also be hurt by Achtenberg, since the two would very likely draw support from the same liberal voters.

Some of those contacted last weekend by Achtenberg tell me that she left little doubt that she will be "in the race very soon." ("Roberta didn't ask if she should run; she specifically said she is *most definitely running*.") They also confided that she seemed not at all bothered by whom she might be facing - even Willie Brown.

Interestingly, a number of high-profile, politically active gays and lesbians have already committed themselves to the Speaker (when he makes his grand pronouncement, that is) and are reluctant to jump to Achtenberg. In addition, many of those loyal to Supervisor Carole Migden have reportedly cut a deal to support Brown, who would then throw his support to Migden for his Assembly seat. Migden is definitely in a spot: she's committed to Brown's possible candidacy but definitely does not want to be seen as someone who hindered Achtenberg from becoming mayor.



Roberta Achtenberg

dates that he is about ready to commit to the mayor.

Until Roberta makes her candidacy official, I tend to think she's still testing the waters. However, two of the city's best-known, most respected lesbians, who carry quite a bit of political weight, told me at dinner Monday night that they would "back Roberta in a minute" and were urging her to throw her hat in the ring.

Indeed, in some gay and lesbian circles, the sounds of "Run, Roberta, Run" are beginning to be heard.

People and politics

Speaking of Monsieur Brown, *San Jose Mercury News* columnist Leigh Weimers writes that he was wondering while driving through San Francisco one recent night, "If Willie Brown is the state's all-powerful prince of pork, why was I still detouring around earthquake-damaged freeway sections of the city while Los Angeles' road repairs are virtually complete?" Got an answer for that one, Willie?

Hey, how about those economic interest statements filed last week by the present supes! I didn't realize a couple of them were so wealthy - but don't worry, that won't keep those donation requests from clogging your mailbox or tying up your phone.

Had a long chat with Senator Dianne Feinstein Sunday at the POA affair for the ailing Ray Benson. The senator seemed relaxed, looking well, and finally getting her life back after last November's tumultuous, bitter battle with Michael Huffington. Feinstein,

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A Taxing Time

by Nancy Boutilier

Some days my memory serves me better than others. For instance, if I had properly remembered how miserable I was a year ago rushing to get my taxes calculated, I would not have waited — once again — until this final week to be filling out my 1040 form.

Of course, I'm still looking for Schedule Q — you know, the

form with the Queerdratic Equation which allows each of us to figure out our Discrimination Deduction. Only those with full rights and privileges should pay full taxes, don't you think?

Is this what is meant by "special rights?" The "special" right to pay full price for only partial protection under the law? I think not. So, as usual, I'm trying to figure out what percentage of my taxes I ought to pay based on

the percent of a citizen I am under the law.

As an English-speaking, literate, white lesbian, I figure I'm only 83 percent citizen. My education and skin color work "for" me in this equation, but my economic worth as a woman and my sexual deviance, which would not allow me much protection (physical or legal), have me figuring I ought to claim a 17 percent deduction on my federal taxes.

Next year, I'll plan ahead, with enough time to actually find, or at least create, Schedule Q. Until then, I'll just do what I always do: tell the IRS where I want my money going. This year, perhaps, after years of insisting that none of my money go to the Department of Defense, I will urge the IRS to send my taxes in the direction of the gay men and lesbians so proudly serving in the military. But then, of course, they'd have to ask, wouldn't they? And we know what would happen next. My taxes would pay for the hearing and dismissal of those officers, and eventually my tax dollars would fund the legal defense of the Pentagon's bigoted policy.

Maybe if I earmark my tax dollars for the National Endowment for the Arts — oh, never mind.

Last year, I designated my funds to help pay the salary of "that damned lesbian Roberta Achtenberg." But, if rumor

serves me, Roberta may not be on the federal payroll much longer. At least when it comes to voting, I'm a full citizen: one queer vote equals one straight vote. Run, Roberta, Run!

Roberta on my mind

Though I have only my memory to guide me, I think Roberta would make a terrific mayor. Then again, I also think it's a terrible time to become this city's mayor.

Not too long ago, I heard a friend of General Colin Powell tell an interviewer on National Public Radio that Powell wouldn't run for president because he wanted to keep his image untarnished. He feared running, even winning, would put him under

ed.

When she was on the board of supervisors and I was covering City Hall, Roberta seemed to be the hardest to get a word from. She wasn't particularly chatty or outgoing. She was far more focused on the issues than the posturing, the public relations, and the press releases. She couldn't care less what I was writing about, and I'm not sure she could remember my name the way many of the other supervisors could.

I remember admiring all that. I saw her relative disinterest in me and my work as a fundamental belief in what she was doing. She trusted me to do my job while she did hers. Maybe that's twisted. Maybe my memory does me, and Roberta, a disservice.

But the image I have of Roberta is strong. Perhaps, if she actually has to muck it up with special interests or compromise during the budget cuts, I may find my memory shattered.

Well, I for one am willing to take that risk if you are, Roberta! This city needs someone with more compassion than posturing and more conviction than campaigning.

As I said before, some days my memory serves me better than others. A year ago I pledged I'd fill out my tax return ahead of time. Now, where is that W-2 form? ▼

Commentary

so much scrutiny that it would undermine the way he would be remembered.

Roberta may be the only living politician I really trust, the only one I fully believe in. I respect others, support their agendas, recognize their ways as an end, but only Roberta has convinced me that she acts fully out of conviction.

Though I have little knowledge of what Roberta has been doing in Washington, my memory of Roberta is clear and convincing — she's hard-working, tactful, efficient and fair-minded.



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Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland

After the Dance

Just a few of the many young people who turned out for the Spring Queer Youth Dance for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning youth under 24 take a breather after the April 8 event at the Eureka Valley Recreation Center. A good if exhausting time was reportedly had by all.

Study: One Quarter of U.S. Hate Crime Victims are Gay

A tally of hate crimes released by the Klanwatch Project of the Southern Poverty Law Center March 31 indicates gays and lesbians were victims of 25 percent of bias-related assaults in the United States — and nearly two-thirds of such murders — last year.

The Montgomery, Alabama-based group catalogued 228 assaults based on the victim's ethnicity, sexual orientation, and religion — more than a fourth higher than the number they found in 1993 — but said bias-related murders were down 67 per-

cent, from 30 to 18.

Klanwatch also used the occasion of the report's release to bring attention to the growth of the Aryan Nations, a white supremacist group that is now operating in at least 18 states (up from three in 1993) and in Europe.

Klanwatch Project Director Danny Welch said Aryan Nations has apparently gained from the decline of other, similar groups.

— I.A. Kisselman

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GLAAD

MTV's Life Line

by Al Kiewasser

After 19 valiant episodes, *My So-Called Life* is at serious risk for cancellation by the ABC television network. Included amongst the program's cast of regulars is "Rickie," a gay teenage character (played by the outspoken — and out — gay actor, Wilson Cruz).

Whatever ABC's final decision might be, the MTV cable network has already opted to re-run all 19 episodes of *My So-Called Life*. That decision continues MTV's tradition of support for progressive and pro-social programming. The music video network will air the series each weekday, throughout the month of April.

The MTV action calls to mind another crossover effort, in 1981, which saved *The Paper Chase*. Like *My So-Called Life*, *The Paper Chase* was a critically acclaimed series that failed to pull in the mass audiences demanded by commercial broadcasters. After CBS dropped *The Paper Chase*, the Public Broadcasting System (PBS) picked up the series. Following a stint on PBS, *The Paper Chase* eventually found a spot on the Showtime pay-cable system. Showtime purchased the original 22 episodes and funded new installments as well.

Of course, PBS is supposed to provide important, diverse, "quality" TV programs ... programs that might lack a certain "commercial appeal." But would PBS pick up a series like *My So-Called Life*? The prospect seems doubtful today; the renewed vigor of Congressional homophobes has seemingly cut both the budget and the boldness out of the Public Broadcasting System.

Compliments should be directed to Judy McGrath, President, MTV Networks, 1515 Broadway, New York, NY 10036, tel. 212-258-8712, fax 212-258-8718, e-mail mtvmail@aol.com. Programming suggestions can also be sent to Ervin Duggan, President, PBS, 1320 Braddock Place, Alexandria, VA 22314, tel. 703-739-5000 or 800-356-2626, fax 703-739-5295. Finally, efforts to keep *My So-Called Life* alive and on ABC are on-going; to join in the grassroots campaign, contact Operation Life Support, P.O. Box 641200, San Francisco, CA 94164-1200, tel. 415-292-5809, fax 415-292-4111, e-mail savemsl@aol.com.

Please, Rain On This Parade!

Parade magazine is a color tabloid supplement included with the Sunday editions of newspapers across the country. Walter Scott's "Personality Parade" is a regular (and regularly homophobic) column, in which the magazine's readers ask questions about various celebrities.

In the April 2 issue, a reader wrote: "My cousin says Keanu Reeves is gay. I don't believe it. Who is right?" Walter Scott answered: "Since the days of silent movies, rumors about which stars are gay have circulated in Hollywood — often begun by jealous second-rate actors. But even in this more enlightened age, when being homosexual in showbiz carries far less stigma than ever before, speculating about someone's sexual orientation serves no purpose."

To begin with, Scott could bone up on his Hollywood history. "Rumors about which stars are gay" often arose from the fact that these stars were gay; as such, some rumors had more to do with accuracy than jealousy. Also, Scott's view that "speculation serves no purpose" is completely heterosexist. Fans (and gossip columnists!) constantly assume that actors and actresses are heterosexual; so what's wrong with occasionally assuming that they are *not*? It's only reasonable, after all.

Keanu Reeves may not be queer (he has, in fact, gone so far as to issue a press release authenticating his heterosexuality). But, many actors are gay or lesbian. And many are still, unfortunately, in the closet. The proportionally few entertainers who have come out do not deny the pervasiveness of Hollywood homophobia.

We must confront the media's homophobia in order to cure it! To notify GLAAD/SFBA of any defamatory or affirmative media coverage call our 24-hour media watch hotline at 415-861-4588, or write to "Media Watch," Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation/San Francisco Bay Area chapter, 1360 Mission Street, Suite 200, San Francisco, CA 94103; tel. 415-861-2244, fax 415-861-4893, e-mail glaad_sfba@aol.com.

Founded in 1988, the San Francisco Bay Area chapter of GLAAD is a membership-based community organization dedicated to cultural advocacy and media activism. GLAAD/SFBA promotes the fair, accurate and diverse representation of lesbian, gay and bisexual lives in all forms of mass media.

The stigma certainly persists.

Routinely, in his columns, Walter Scott refers to "gay rumors" as if they were some sort of plague. He treats the rumor as the essential problem, and completely ignores the real menace — homophobia. Moreover, Scott regularly dishes up gossip about the heterosexual exploits of celebrities, without ever questioning whether these "straight rumors" are justified. In other words, heterosexuality is a given; homosexuality, however, must be proven beyond a reasonable doubt.

In Walter Scott's "Personality Parade," being gay is much like being a criminal defendant. Between the lines, his message is clear: homosexuality is a crime.

Send feedback to Walter Scott, Box 5001, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163-5001. Copy your complaints to Walter Anderson, Editor, Parade, Parade Publications, 711 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10017.

Media Briefs

• **Modem Watch ...** Lesbian supervisor Carole Migden is the first member of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors to take advantage of new communications media by establishing an e-mail address directly to her City Hall office. She can be reached at cmigden@aol.com.

• **A Good Parent ...** The April '95 issue of *San Francisco Peninsula Parent* magazine includes an article on "Teaching Children to Appreciate Diversity." Despite some unfortunate references to "alternative lifestyles," the author does include ample references to homophobia and the resources available for combating it. Significantly, the magazine focuses on young children (pre-school through grade 8). Contact Lisa Rosenthal, Editor, S.F. Peninsula Parent, P.O. Box 1280, Millbrae, CA 94030, tel. 415-342-9203, fax 415-342-9276.

• **Air Pollution Alert ...** There seems to be no shortage of homophobic radio announcers stinking up the nation's airwaves. The latest report comes from Seattle, where KZOK's Robin Erickson used her morning shift to explain why lesbians are disgusting. Remarking that a national magazine planned to feature a cover photo of Melissa Etheridge (showing the singer embracing her lover), Erickson said she would be repulsed by such an image. Send feedback to Steve Slayton, Program Manager, KZOK-FM, 200 W. Mercer Street, Suite 304, 98119, tel. 206-281-5600 or 800-252-1025, fax 206-281-5605.

• **Homo Video ...** Frameline, a distributor of lesbian and gay films and presenter of the San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival, has announced a "Lesbian and Gay Cinema Collection;" these "homo videos" are available directly to the public. For information, call 800-439-1433.

• **School Book ...** Stories from high school and college students are being sought for a new book "about the impact and influence of gay/lesbian/bisexual teachers and professors on their students and on the educational system in general." Contact Dann Hazel, P.O. Box 781, Summerville, SC 29484, tel. 803-871-7123, e-mail gli95@aol.com.

• **Radio Activity ...** The National Lesbian & Gay Radio Town Meeting will be broadcast live, via satellite, on May 7 (8 PM to 10 PM EST). The call-in format will feature activists discussing strategies for countering hate initiatives. Contact your local radio stations (particularly public/non-commercial stations) and urge them to air this groundbreaking broadcast. Refer radio stations to Bert Wylen, producer of the town meeting, tel. 215-772-9010.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Horton Wins; Kessler in Run-Off in L.A. Elections

by Karen Ocamb

Openly gay educator Jeff Horton won re-election to his Los Angeles Unified School District Board seat April 11 despite heavy opposition from two Christian conservatives who targeted his advocacy of pro-gay programs.

Additionally, openly gay businessman David Kessler, co-founder of Project Angel Food, is in a run-off for a seat on the Los Angeles Community College Board.

"I'm very happy," says Horton. "We made a big deal out of it so we got a big victory." The diversity of his support was clear at his election night party with Armenians, Koreans, Filipinos, Latinos, African Americans and union leaders joining students and lesbians and gays in celebration.

April 12 results show Horton secured 21,893 or 61.3% of the votes compared to Traditional Values Coalition-backed Peter Ford with 9,573 or 26.8% of the vote and Christian Coalition-backed Linda Jones with 4,229 or 11.8% of the vote.

Kessler won 45,804 or about 23% of the vote compared to Latina candidate Gloria Romero who won 57,107 or

28.6% of the vote. "I'm thrilled with the outcome," says Kessler, who noted that Assemblymember Diane Martinez's congratulatory call turned into an endorsement. "June will be a tough race but if the gay community turns out to vote they can make a huge difference."

"This is great news," says Victory Fund co-chair Dr. Scott Hitt. "It shows that incumbency is important, for sure, but that we mobilized very well. We held back an assault from the radical right in Horton's race and in Kessler's race - it shows that when we organize and run a campaign right and put forward good candidates, we do well."

As expected, voter turnout was low with 11.9% of registered voters casting ballots. However that percentage went up in two LA City Council Districts. In the traditionally liberal 5th District 17.1% of registered voters forced progressive attorney Mike Feuer into a June run-off election with Barbara Yaroslasky who was trying to win her popular husband's old seat. Another possible run-off candidate is former LA Unified School Board member Roberta Weintraub. With all votes tallied Feuer won 11,872 or 39.8%; Yaroslasky won 7,930 or 26.6%; Weintraub won 6,354

or 21.3%; with the self-proclaimed Christian candidate, Jeff Brain coming in at 3,682 or 12.3%.

Almost 19% of registered voters also turned out in the Crenshaw 10th Council District where Rhodes scholar Stan Sanders forced longtime City Councilmember Nate Holden into a run-off though newcomer Kevin Ross won the LA Times' endorsement. All other City Councilmembers seeking re-election - including Joel Wachs - retained their seats by a huge margin.

One interesting aspect of the Horton race was his huge percentage of absentee ballots, according to his lover Larry Pickens, an aide to openly lesbian LA City Councilmember Jackie Goldberg. One of those votes came from 90-year old Frances Eisenberg, a former school teacher who battled and won against the McCarthy "loyalty oath" 25 years ago. After she met Horton, Eisenberg immediately contributed \$100 and got busy helping to re-elect him. "I just had to be active in this campaign with all my heart and soul," she said. "I believe in this man's integrity and his feeling for people and his concern for children and his ace-high ability to perform in a public office of responsibility." ▼

Boxer

Continued from page 1

hearings on the matter. But Boxer said during a stop at the Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Community Services Center on Monday, April 10 that both Democratic Senator Sam Nunn and Republican Senator Dan Coats have indicated that they want to "hold the line" on the "don't ask, don't tell" policy. According to Boxer, the conservative Senators credited with orchestrating the "compromise" policy think it is "okay" and suggest that Congress "let the courts take it at this point."

If Congress did decide to take up the issue again, she said, "it would have been a nightmare."

During the question and answer period, Boxer was asked if she could talk to the president about not having the Justice Department argue the case as creatively and vigorously as they are, because "if they are successful, they could send gay rights back to the Stone Age." Boxer said that while she didn't back the "ridiculous" policy in the first place, "one can't tell the President not to defend a policy that is the law of the land."

However, Jon Davidson, an ACLU senior staff attorney who will soon leave there to join the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, pointed out to Boxer that the "intelligence and forcefulness of the opinion" could set a precedent for the creation of future anti-gay laws. And, argued Los Angeles City Councilmember Jackie Goldberg, Clinton could issue instructions on how to argue the case. "They are laying new groundwork and setting new precedents for battle we now don't have to fight," Goldberg said. "We could win this battle and lose others on these arguments."

Boxer's appearance marked the first time a sitting Senator has visited the Center. During her wide-ranging remarks the popular liberal Senator thanked the gathered gay and non-gay community leaders for supporting her candidacy, acknowledging that without gay support she might not have won election. "Without this community Bruce Hirschenson would be here now...or not be here now," she joked, referring to her defeated radical right Republican opponent.

"I was wrong"

Boxer said that what is happening in Congress now is not just fighting over spending cuts of particular programs, but a "battle for the heart and soul of the country." It is now a "tough thing" to be on the front lines. "When I got to the Senate I kind of thought there was a national consensus about certain things: the importance of children, prenatal care, head start ... worker's unemployment job training. ... We wouldn't cut Medicare for seniors. ... We would be responsible to health concerns such as those faced by this community."

"I was wrong."

"Now we have to fight for the very premise of having a national government. There are many people who believe we don't need a national government except for the military."

It is ironic, she said, that these ideas are being debated as the nation is commemorating the 50th anniversary of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, who as President pushed through programs based on the

premise that "we are one nation." Referring to the Great Depression, before FDR was elected, Boxer quoted President Herbert Hoover as saying, "Let the genius and creativity of the states respond to this crisis."

This is reminiscent, she suggested, of the new movement in the Republican Congress to let the states decide how best to handle social and economic problems. "We have little Herbert Hoover Newt-clones running around [Capitol] Hill. They're afraid to crack a smile unless they get Newt's permission. It's a rather frightening situation."

But, she says, she is not afraid to speak her mind. She is "empowered" knowing that although Senator Jesse Helms has the power to stop legislation in its tracks, so does she.

On AIDS, Boxer observed that Clinton's budget increases funding in several areas, but acknowledged, "We'll still have a heck of a time getting that to happen. We need your help." She advocates



Senator
Barbara Boxer

and will fight for Ryan White reauthorization for all four titles funding, and said it is important to "not lose sight" of the larger issues of Medicaid and Medicare, which may also be defunded.

"We have to wake up, America," she said. "This community is up. You have a pulse, you're hurt, and you have no choice" but to fight. But other communities are not as aware of what might happen with some of the proposed budget cuts.

"You're not alone," she said. "I will be there very strongly at every turn. The truth is we're all God's children." But now that the first 100 days of the Contract with America has concluded, a "mean-spiritedness" on social issues may emerge. However, she suggests, "smarter" Republican heads are expected to prevail in keeping gay and lesbian issues off the table knowing that it would "rip them apart."

Boxer said she is "kind of impressed with Bill Clinton's leadership abilities lately." She thinks he made a right strategic decision in allowing Gingrich and his followers to take center stage with the Contract with America so Americans could "see these guys in action."

She also said that Clinton has now drawn a "line in the sand" and threatened a "pile of vetoes" over upcoming issues, and thinks he showed "real leadership and courage" in saying he wants to re-evaluate individual Affirmative Action programs while supporting diversity in the workforce and being "sensitive to the plight of many white males" - most of whom are former blue collar workers who once expected to get the company gold watch just like their fathers before them.

Finally, Boxer said of Clinton: "He's not perfect. I'm not perfect. Not even Jackie [Goldberg]'s perfect. So compared to the eight angry men [this Republican Presidential opponents], he has optimism, a good record, and a strategy for accomplishment. I think he will do better than anyone else will to lead this country into the next century." ▼

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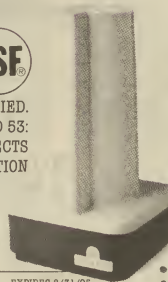
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National Lawyers Guild To Honor Attorney Tom Steel

Rep. Studds, Supes Migden, Ammiano Will Participate

by Kent Brandley

Gay activist attorney Tom Steel will be honored at a testimonial dinner hosted by the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of the National Lawyers Guild on Saturday, April 29 in Oakland.

Some well-known old friends and former clients who have been helped by Steel along the way will join in honoring him.

U.S. Representative Gerry Studds, D-Massachusetts, will fly out to be the keynote speaker at the dinner. He will be joined by San Francisco Supervisor Carole Migden, who will also speak, and by Supervisor Tom Ammiano as master of ceremonies.

Studds and Steel have been friends since the early 1980s, when they met in San Francisco. "I had admired his work on El Salvador," Steel said of his relationship with Studds. "He was an outspoken opponent of U.S. intervention in El Salvador."

Brian Willson will also participate, as will activists and former clients Bill and Sylvia Powell. Steel represented Willson, who lost both his legs when a Concord Naval Weapons Station train carrying weapons bound for Central America barreled into a group of peaceful protesters. Steel won a million dollar award for injured protesters.

Migden told the *B.A.R.* Steel has been a close friend of hers for many years, and said he has made "a sterling commitment to progressive, lesbian, and gay matters" and had dedicated himself to the betterment of the community.

Steel is a partner in one of the nation's

largest and most successful gay and lesbian law firms, Steel, Clarence and Buckley, with six working attorneys and an impressive track record.

A few highlights

Looking out over the city skyline, the Bay Bridge, and the Naval Shipyards from his office on the top floor of an elegantly restored 1865 Edwardian mansion atop Potrero Hill, Steel met with the *B.A.R.* Monday to discuss highlights of his career.

The tastefully furnished mansion has been used for frequent gay and lesbian community and political fundraising events, such as those for Supervisor Migden and other progressive candidates, as well as the gay rights chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union.

Steel recalled that when he was starting out in the 1970s, "It was not so popular to be an openly gay attorney." In fact, he said, "it was not clear in those days whether an attorney *could* be openly gay and remain a member of the bar."

Working with other young attorneys, Steel helped start the first national gay and lesbian caucus of the Lawyers Guild.

"I've seen a lot of progress in my lifetime around gay and lesbian rights, and it's been extremely encouraging," Steel said. "Today we have openly gay and lesbian judges and lawmakers, and I think we are poised to achieve important changes in the law to protect gay people against discrimination and to guarantee equality."

Steel, 45, is a lifelong resident of California. He came to the Bay Area when he attended U. C. Berkeley and

Hastings Law School here.

A spokesperson for the National Lawyers Guild ticked off several reasons why Steel is being honored:

- As lead counsel, Steel successfully coordinated numerous civil damage cases arising from the police beatings of demonstrators protesting the verdict in the Dan White trial for murdering gay Supervisor Harvey Milk and Mayor George Moscone.

- Steel represented numerous victims of anti-gay and racist violence in lawsuits for damages against their attackers, securing several large awards for the plaintiffs.
- Steel, Clarence and Buckley has for many years successfully represented the Mitchell Brothers Theatre and many other bookstores, theatres, and film companies in battles over the First Amendment and censorship. The firm also represents journalists seeking government documents in Freedom of Information Act litigation.

- The law firm continues to represent civil rights plaintiffs and is currently counsel for the families of two young men shot and killed by police.
- Steel, Clarence and Buckley is also representing numerous people who attended an AIDS benefit last New Year's Eve. Police decided the benefit did not

have proper permits and "raided" it, during which they allegedly physically abused participants and used homophobic slurs.

- Steel was one of the founders and first members of the Board of Directors of Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom (BALIF), which is the Bay Area's gay and lesbian bar association. BALIF has grown to be a respected and significant voice for gay men and lesbians in the legal community.

- Steel has served on the Bay Area Lawyers Guild Executive Board and was the first gay Chapter President in the history of the organization. He later served as national vice president.

"In honoring me they are honoring gay rights and women's work of the Lawyers Guild," Steel said modestly.

Entertainment at the dinner to be held at the Parc Oakland Hotel, located at 1001 Broadway in Oakland, will provide "a change of pace for the Lawyers Guild," Steel said. That change will be provided by "Patsy Cline and the Memphis G-Spots," whose lead singer, Arturo Galster, does a drag impression of Patsy Cline — and who, in Steel's words, is "unbelievably fabulous."

The testimonial for Steel begins with cocktails at 5:30 p.m., followed by dinner at 7:15 p.m. Tickets are \$75 per person, with reduced rate of \$35 for students and low-income people. RSVP by April 24. Tickets will be held at the door. ▼

For further information call the National Lawyers Guild Office at (415) 285-5067.



Tom Steel

Stoddard: Homophobia Is a Right But, Says Expert, "Equality Is Going To Trump Liberty"

by I.A. Kisselman

Onetime Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund Executive Director Tom Stoddard publicly acknowledged his belief that Boston St. Patrick's Day organizers "do have a right to exclude" homosexual marchers if they so choose. Stoddard, a gay attorney who now teaches law at New York University, expressed the view Friday, April 7 at a television taping.

Because the parade was privately sponsored, and because it was "expressive" — expressly anti-gay in sentiment — organizers had a right to discriminate, Stoddard reasoned. "You lose your association rights when you operate in public," he said on an episode of *Freedom Speaks* for a later broadcast on PBS in San Francisco and other cities.

"I deplore the views of those who organize the parade," he said, "but they do have a right to exclude."

Galveston attorney Anthony Griffin agreed with Stoddard's assessment on the program, saying, "Unless the government is sponsoring the parade, I should be able to march and say what I want." The controversy was ignited when parade organizers refused to allow members of the Irish Lesbian and Gay Organization to do that, but

Griffin was presumably speaking from the viewpoint of a parade sponsor.

A sense of humor about the Klan

Griffin also discussed the recent controversy over a Ku Klux Klan chapter's effort to adopt a highway in Texas, and said, "We, as civil libertarians, should get a sense of humor about this. The Klan has a right to put their message up."

Freedom Speaks is a weekly television program presented free of charge to PBS stations in more than 120 markets nationwide by WHMM-TV, Howard University Public Television in Washington. It is produced by The Freedom Forum First Amendment Center at Vanderbilt University, a nonpartisan, international foundation dedicated to free press, free speech, and free spirit for all people. Established with \$100,000 of Gannett Company stock 60 years ago by Frank E. Gannett, the foundation now has more than \$700 million in assets and neither accepts nor solicits contributions.

Kerry Brock, director of broadcasting and programming for The Freedom Forum First Amendment Center at Vanderbilt, co-hosts *Freedom Speaks* with veteran broadcast journalist Sander Vanocur. At

Continued on page 26



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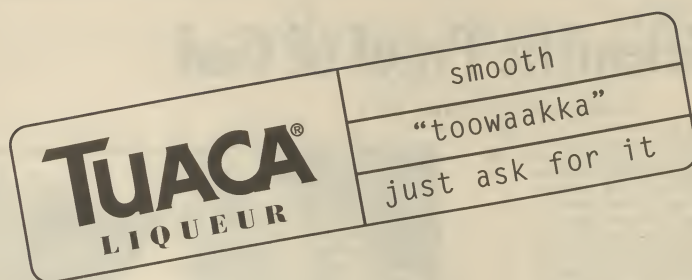
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your hat on,
try it chilled,
try it with
someone you
don't know,
yet



The Scientific Proof of God

© Robert James Carron, 1995

Atoms are everywhere in the universe and within them spin electrons. Electrons spin constantly and never stop. They neither rest or sleep, but remain in perpetual motion. ALL ELECTRONS EVERYWHERE IN THE UNIVERSE, INCLUDING INSIDE OUR BODY, SPIN AT THE RATE OF 720° PER ONE REVOLUTION. Electrons exist and spin in a miraculous way which is not possible for our body, taken as a whole, to do. If our whole body were spinning, or even if it could spin, at 720° per one complete revolution, this spin would immediately kill us because our body isn't designed to withstand that kind of motion. Such movement to our body would be fatal. We would spin out of control and fly apart; it would be a messy way to go, but it would be very quick. 720° per one revolution is not even something we can exactly understand because all the objects in our normal, everyday experience which we can see and touch, all these cannot move at 720° per one revolution. The BEST we can do is 360° per one revolution. For example, all the scientists on earth PUT TOGETHER cannot make a chair, a comb, or a football move or spin at 720° per one revolution. To do this involves an entire dimension unknown to our tangible world. It is a dimension known to us only through our mind, our imagination, and our beliefs (scientific, religious, philosophical, etc.)

This is a central mystery and paradox of all existence in the universe, including our own bodies. How could part of us, OUR ELECTRONS, spin partly in another dimension without that spin driving us out of control and killing us? How could such an incredibly advanced design be developed? THIS DEFIES ALL COMMON SENSE. There is one and only one rational answer to this mystery and paradox. As it says in the first book of Genesis, we are all created in the likeness of God. God loves us and so God put a lot of very special design into our composition and construction, and into the whole universe. Well, God didn't do it just for fun; God did it because God loves us and wants us to live and exist in God's own image, which then certainly requires a very complicated and sophisticated design. Now admit it, haven't you often felt you were someone very, very special, and that you had unique talents, experience, abilities, and gifts to share with the world? Of course you have, and that is because God has created each of us with (more than) a spark of the Divine literally inside you. If you can think of a better, more rational answer to the puzzle of the electrons, I take my hat off to you. But if you cannot find such an explanation, then I think one would have to be willfully imbecilic AND irrational not to accept the proof which I set before you. There are none so blind as those who will not see, and none so deaf as those who will not hear. You can lead a horse to water, but you can't make 'em drink. Fortunately, also, there are none so wise as those who will choose wisdom, there are none so happy as those who will be happy, there are none so wonderful as those who choose wonderment and wonderfulness, and there are none so Divine as those who see, hear and accept their own special portion of Divinity.

There are many, many other indications of the totality and sophistication of God's wonderful design. You can read about them in many books, and I particularly commend one to you: *Beyond the Quantum*, Michael Talbot, Bantam edition, 1988, Chapter 7 (it is in print and can be ordered for about \$8.00).

TO NOT FORGET THIS, or forget it ONLY AT THE PERIL OF YOUR DIVINE SOUL, neither forget to give thanks to GOD: electrons spin at the rate of 720° per One (1) Single Revolution and GOD—AND ONLY GOD—can make a thing spin at 720° PER ONE SINGLE REVOLUTION. In this fact lies the Scientific Proof of God's existence.

The Scientific Proof of God is really very simple, ridiculously simple to understand if you are open to it. It has nothing whatsoever to do with any organized religion, just as God, Godself, frequently has little to do with organized religion, which so often cares more for itself than about God. If you are OPEN to GOD, you can easily understand this proof.

P.S. Why, you ask, did it take a born-again Blond, a middle-aged queer, a landscape painter and photographer with very little math or science background OR interest, running around San Francisco, of all places, to discover THE MOST IMPORTANT SCIENTIFIC PROOF IN ALL RECORDED HISTORY? Simple. God has a very funny, off-beat, PERVERSE sense of humor. GOD also likes to remind us that ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE WITH GOD. See Matthew 19:26; Mark 10:27; and Luke 18:27.

Faster Than the Speed of Light

©Robert James Carron

What is faster than the speed of light? Oh, lots of things: 1) God's Love; 2) human

hope, compassion and LOVE; 3) artistic/scientific and all other types of inspiration; 3) human imagination; 5) the concept $E=mc^2$ where E =energy, m =mass and c equals the speed of light. c^2 , you know, is not the speed of light $x 2$ but rather the speed of light x the speed of light and THAT'S a whole LOT faster than the speed of light; 6) animal's Love and Trust in US (and if you don't believe me, just ask Doris Day, Greg Louganis, Owonna McCarty, Brigitte Bardot or Kim Novak, to name a few); 7) Precognition; 8) memory.

MAYBE WINNING THE 1996 PRESIDENCY: Robert Dole voted AGAINST the Constitutional Amendment for a Balanced Budget. It's a FACT; see the *Congressional Record* or p. 672, *Congressional Quarterly*, March 4, 1995.

ABORTION: A Relatively Simple means for Defusing this Explosive Problem. Erase the clinics as targets—decentralize. Use boats on the sea, RV's, islands, secluded mountain retreats, planes, trains. Keep moving and be silent about it; use the clinics only for minor administration, if at all.

PERPETUAL MOTION: Remember the name—The Zhabotinsky Reaction. It just might be worth looking into and developing.

AVOIDING NUCLEAR WINTER: Sorry, folks, I've run out of time and space. I'm very worried about this problem. Nuclear information is rapidly spreading. If you don't believe me, think about it. Israel, India, China, North Korea, South Africa, Iran, Iraq, Libya, Russia (or various chunks of it, who knows what they're called this month). Just recently Russia wanted to sell nuclear information to Iran and guess what? For money (why doesn't this surprise me?)!!!

Terrorism is obviously the WAVE of the FUTURE. Read about it Now in your daily newspaper and the evening news. The Tokyo subway, the World Trade Center, the London tube—the possibilities are endless, aren't they? Sarin, you know, is mild compared to some things. The Phantom might say, "There are far worse things than a shattered chandelier." You really don't have to be a rocket scientist or have ESP to see where this road is leading and I'm afraid this road is Not going to Be Scenic. I, however, just happen to have a solution to this little problem, too—pity I've run out of space and time. Also a pity more of you haven't run out to buy my prints at Manesek; it really hurt my feelings and has left me just devastated. Well, c'est la vie. I'll survive. Oh, by the way, WHEN (Not if, WHEN) the going gets rough, remember that I do have THE SOLUTION, and don't kid yourselves—the mind that brought you THE DEFINITIVE PROOF OF GOD, FASTER THAN THE SPEED OF LIGHT, ABORTION RELIEF, etc. really does have The Solution; I recommend you not wait too long, though. I found the answer when it stared me in the face—it was in an obscure little book published in Berkeley in the 80's and the very erudite author didn't even realize it was the solution. Many, many folks are not good at seeing the truth when it stares them right in the face, but when I read what I read, I KNEW it was the answer. Of course, like everything else I've written, it does no good AT ALL unless listened to, attended to AND BELIEVED. The grappling and dealing with these nightmarish problems on our doorstep is absolutely critical, because all other solutions and problems will go up in smoke without a plan to deal with this central, crucial issue. The solution I found is not a pie-in-the-sky kind of idea like praying and hoping God will send a miraculous cure. God helps those who help themselves. The solution to this Gordian Knot I suggest to you in parable form. If you lived in an apartment house and one day suffered a heart attack, it wouldn't do you any good at all if a doctor lived just down the hall if you never met the doctor or if you didn't call for help. In this case, because of what I read, I know whom to call. I have been sent to help you, and I know it's annoying, but my consultation fee is \$2.2 million paid up front; a very, very small fee considering the stakes and considering the Dept. of Defense cannot account for its more than \$250 billion annual budget and over \$1 trillion in assets throughout the world, as reported by the General Accounting Office, *The Chronicle*, 2/23/95, p.A2. You pay very minor sports figures far more and get far less for the \$\$\$. Actually, \$2.2 million is very, very cheap; for a solution to this kind of dilemma, \$22 BILLION WOULD BE CHEAP. Anyway, I really have to run now, but if you want to reach me, just call The Chateau Tivoli, 1-800-228-1647. Oh, one other thing: if need be I have an unusual ability that not many folks have; it's a kind of self-hypnosis I learned. In the blink of an eye I can make myself forget something if I want to or NEED to enough. In the blink of an eye I can totally erase something from my own memory.

P.S. I gave the book away to charity, though of course I still remember the title, author and other relevant information. And about the \$\$\$, well, it's all in the family after all, n'est-ce pas? They say everybody on earth is at least a 50th cousin. *The Chronicle*, 2/5/95, p. 7.

♥

Robert



Photo montage Robert J. Carron

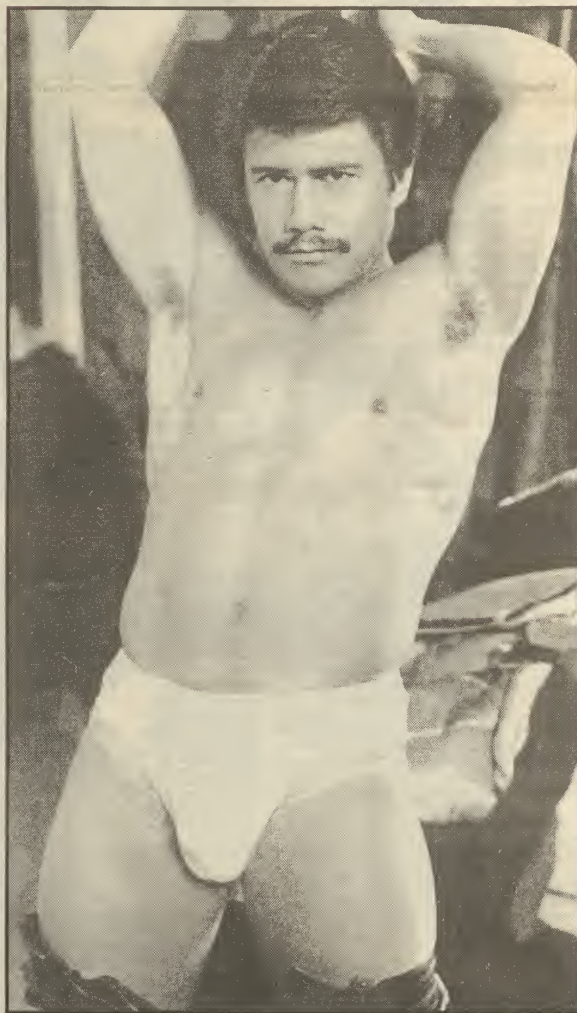


Photo: Robert J. Carron

I thought this might catch your attention. This is a good example of minor ESP because I not only thought, I KNEW—I KNEW—it would!

Well, I see I've about run out of time and space for now, and now that I've strutted my hour upon this stage, I must depart. Just one little thing before I go: some people have told me they think I'm mad as a hatter, and that is well because I am of good cheer and really don't care what you think. But if I were YOU, I'd remember that everything I (have paid dearly to) publish is copyrighted and the most important writings are not only copyrighted but are sealed in envelopes which lie in vaults with seals and Registered Mail marks unbroken (like all my bones, unbroken—yes, it's true, I've never had a broken bone), courtesy of the U.S. Postal Service. And if you don't understand this part of the message, you'd better read the list of lawyers again.

'Informal' U.S. Trials of French Herbal Extract Open

Immune Enhancement Project Starts Bay Area Enrollment

by Kent Bradley

The manufacturer of a boxwood evergreen extract now undergoing second phase clinical trials in France has agreed to provide enough free product in America to establish a nationwide informal study of 500 PWAs for six months. The study has been proceeding on the east coast for about two months, according to Tom Sinclair, executive director of the Immune Enhancement Project, but the first shipment of the product arrived in the Bay Area only last week.

David Stokes, a 32-year-old Boston resident now on disability leave from his professional career as a litigation consultant, first learned about SPV-30 from a friend, Dr. Beth E. Mestman and became interested, he said, when he learned the manufacturer's "1992 Phase I double-blind study showed promising indications that SPV-30 increases CD4 cells."

"After 30 weeks, a group of 22 HIV positive individuals had an average increase of approximately 100 CD4/mm³," he claims,

"while the placebo group had an average drop of approximately 50 CD4/mm³ during the same period."

"A second phase clinical trial involving 180 individuals was approved recently by the French Ministry of Health, and the study is currently underway in France under the supervision of Dr. Luc Montagnier," discoverer of the HIV virus.

"I contacted Arkopharma, the major French pharmaceutical company conducting the study, to find out how I could gain access to the product," Stokes said, and his persistent inquiries eventually convinced the company to make the product available and establish informal studies in the United States.

"I told them that skepticism is rampant among those of us hoping for non-toxic, alternative therapies — and that the only way to create an awareness of the product in this country is to provide it free for a large number of individuals nationwide to try it for themselves."

"Arkopharma agreed to provide enough free product to establish a nationwide informal study with 500 individuals for six months."

One form every two months

Participants who send Arkopharma results from a questionnaire and a recent blood test are sent a two-month supply of SPV-30. Those who send in another set of lab results at the end of two months are sent another



David Stokes

two-month supply, and so on. Stokes, a graduate of Harvard Business School, told the B.A.R. most participants in the informal U.S. study so far report increases in CD4s after two months, and even greater increases in CD8s. Viral loads are being reduced as well, he said, claiming his own viral load decreased from 36,700 to below 10,000. Two participants have reported viral load decreases from 104,000 to 18,500 (an 82 percent drop) and 160,000 to 15,000 (90.6 percent), according to Stokes.

"Obviously, the data are preliminary but encouraging," Stokes said. He told the B.A.R. that Dr. Mestman will compile the data to determine if it is as effective as Arkopharma suggests.

Michael Onstott of Guerneville, whom Stokes

said has been active in the project from the beginning, told the B.A.R. he was "truly skeptical at the beginning last fall, because of other promising products that have not panned out," but is now convinced SPV-30 has merit. He, like Stokes, points out it is non-toxic, and said, "With the French group, after two years, we have not seen viral mutation or drug resistance."

Onstott now coordinates the expanded access program for those people who do not join the informal U. S. project and who cannot afford to buy SPV-30. He was instrumental in negotiating with Arkopharma to lower the wholesale cost to buyer's clubs downward. A limited amount of free SPV-30 is available to qualified applicants, he said.

Five or six people have already signed up to participate in the study in the Bay Area, Sinclair told the B.A.R. ▼

For information on the SPV 30 study or to enroll, call the Immune Enhancement Project at (415) 252-8711; write or visit IEP at 3450 16th Street, San Francisco CA 94114; or call David Stokes at (617) 424-9195. Call Michael Onstott for detailed information on Expanded Access at (707) 869-2029. For info on where to purchase SPV 30 call the Health Connection at 1-800-783-5050 or the Healing Alternatives Foundation at (415) 626-4053.

The Multicultural Young Men's Coming Out Study

Seeking:

African American and White gay males, ages 18-24, living in San Francisco Bay area and interested in sharing coming out experiences in a 2-hour interview

Interested?

Call (415) 522-9596 for more information

Completely Confidential!

Receive \$20 for participation

This study is being conducted through the School of Social Welfare at UC Berkeley.

Current Active Studies

HIVCare

Mepron vs. Aerosol Pentamidine

For individuals who are allergic to sulfa drugs and who need prophylaxis against *Pneumocystis carinii* pneumonia, a comparison of low-dose Mepron vs. high-dose Mepron vs. Aerosol Pentamidine. For people who have had 1 or more episodes of PCP 18 month study sponsored by Burroughs Wellcome.

LGD1069 for Kaposi's Sarcoma

A new retinoid gel for topical application to KS lesions. Provides a non-cytotoxic option for people with skin KS. 8 week study with option to continue if the gel is safe and effective. Sponsored by Ligand Pharmaceuticals.

Delavirdine (U-90, BHAP)

Two studies available: first, for people with 200-500 CD4 and less than 6 months of AZT, a double-blind comparison of AZT plus DLV vs. AZT plus placebo; second, for people with fewer than 300 CD4 and less than 4 months of ddI, a double-blind comparison of ddI plus DLV vs. ddI plus placebo. Upjohn.

Nevirapine

Two groups of volunteers with 200-500 CD4: those who have taken AZT for 4-24 months, who receive either AZT plus NVP or AZT plus placebo, and those who have not taken antiretrovirals, who receive NVP or placebo. The study offers cross-over to active drug for all participants. Boehringer Ingelheim.

For further information, please call the Client Care Coordinator at (415) 353-6215. HIVCare is a program of the Clinical Research Department at Saint Francis Memorial Hospital, 900 Hyde St., SF 94109.

Cannabis

Continued from page 1

"The DEA and the FBI were at our door last Wednesday. It's time to tell them to leave us alone," activist Dennis Peron told protesters.

According to Peron, club members observed federal agents twice conducting surveillance at the site on Thursday, April 6.

In the first incident, Peron said two agents allegedly conducting video surveillance from an unmarked vehicle were observed and confronted, then quickly drove away. Later that day, a caregiver for a PWA was allegedly followed by men in a surveillance car as he left the club's premises and traveled to a local AIDS hospice, Peron said.

A spokesman for the Federal Bureau of Investigation told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the agency didn't want to give the charges "credibility" by commenting on them.

"We're not familiar with the group," said Rick Smith, a spokesman for the FBI's San Francisco field office.

The San Francisco Police

Department also had no comment on whether it was aware of a federal investigation into the club, according to a spokeswoman.

However, Chief of Police Anthony Ribera, like most major political figures in San Francisco, supports the legalization of marijuana for medical purposes. Ribera has also publicly supported SB 1364, a proposed state bill that would have re-scheduled the legal classification of marijuana and allowed its prescription by physicians for the treatment of conditions such as AIDS and cancer. The measure was vetoed by Governor Wilson last September.

On a roll with AB 1529

"Governor Wilson vetoed the bill, but we're not going to stop," Peron said. This year, we have AB 1529," a similar Assembly bill.

The longtime activist said that he did not believe the alleged harassment by federal agents was about the use of marijuana for medical reasons, but part of a continuing assault on alternative cultures.

"It's less and less about marijuana and more and more about who we are as a people," Peron said. "They

say we have an agenda and that we want marijuana legalized. We have an agenda, but it's an agenda about love and compassion. We have an agenda about the future."

In 1991, Peron spearheaded Prop P, a ballot initiative that called for the restoration of marijuana as medicine. The measure was approved by 80 percent of San Francisco voters.

In November 1992, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors directed police and the District Attorney to give the enforcement of marijuana laws the lowest possible priority. The unanimous resolution was signed by Mayor Jordan.

Activists now want Jordan to declare a state of medical emergency that would allow the distribution of marijuana for medicinal purpose without legal sanction.

A request for a hearing of such a proposal was introduced by Supervisor Tom Ammann at the board of supervisor's meeting on Monday, April 10. The measure will be assigned to committee and a hearing date calendared.

Jordan was out of town and unable to comment on the proposal. ▼

Ryan White

Continued from page 1

Republican members of the group in their opening comments and aggressive questioning.

Ryan White is "one of the most cost effective programs that has addressed this most critical health crisis," said Brian Bilbray (R-California), drawing upon his experience administering the program in San Diego County. "This issue has been politicized by the far right and the far left. In my view this has been irresponsible."

Richard Burr (R-North Carolina) spoke of having lost a family member to AIDS: "something I wouldn't wish on anybody."

"As a physician, I have taken care of people with this disease; it is not confined to big cities," said surgeon Greg Ganske (R-Iowa).

"I am markedly concerned as a physician who has lost 16 AIDS patients that I have treated," said Tom Coburn (R-Oklahoma). He went on to lambaste his home state where "one out of four dollars that are allocated are spent on administration on this program rather than to treat or help those inflicted with this disease."

The formula

Steve Gunderson, the openly gay Republican Congressman from Wisconsin, opened up the first panel of witnesses. He pushed aggressively for revisions in the current funding formula that counts cumulative AIDS cases to date - including the deceased. The changes he suggested would bring more resources to underserved communities, he said, observing that "We can make memorials to those we have lost to the disease, we don't need to fund them."

The emotional high point of the hearing came when Gunderson introduced a friend, Matt Fletcher, who had recently retired on disability with AIDS. Fletcher joined Gunderson's personal staff years ago and advanced through the ranks to become Republican Staff Director of the Government Operations Committee.

"I just have one purpose in mind," Fletcher said. "To try and demonstrate that AIDS is here on Capitol Hill. Many other staffers on the Hill basically suffer in silence. There is a lot of fear - fear what going public might mean for their boss; worry about the politics - I was just hoping to give a face to it."

He succeeded. Normal conversations ceased as every eye focused on Fletcher, rapt with attention.

Witness after witness acknowledged that the current formula for distributing money was inequitable and urged specific revisions. One curious exception was the Clinton administration.

What is the administration's position on the formula contained in the Kassebaum-Kennedy version of the Ryan White reauthorization bill now before the Senate? It seems that "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" applies to more than just the policy of gays in the military.

Former San Francisco Health Director Philip Lee, now the second-highest ranking person in the Department

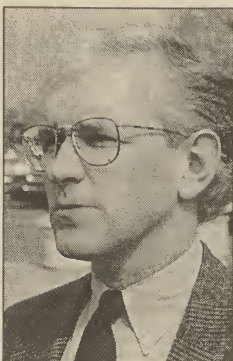
of Health and Human Services, readily admitted to problems with the current formula but ducked several opportunities to comment on the Kassebaum-Kennedy changes. He finally said it was "the role of Congress" to make that decision - but the Clinton administration would be happy to provide "technical assistance" to help them understand the impact of formula options.

"I wish more federal agencies viewed it just like you," responded freshman Charlie Norwood (R-Georgia).

"It is really inconceivable that a measure of such importance as this is given no recommendation by the Clinton administration as to how to proceed," said Shepherd Smith, with Americans for a Sound AIDS Policy. "It is mind boggling to me. If this is an example of leadership on this issue, to me it is a disgrace."

Coming attractions

"Concern for confidentiality, while important, has been over-emphasized, and sound medical procedures have been thwarted



Rep. Steve Gunderson

and ultimately ignored," intoned Norwood, drawing upon his experience as a dentist. "Even prevention efforts have been tailored toward protecting the identity of those with HIV rather than toward measures that have proven effective at stemming other serious epidemics. Consequently we are not stemming this epidemic."

"I am somewhat concerned

that we have failed to do the proper testing as public health would dictate in trying to identify, and treat, and counsel those who are either carriers or who have this disease," said Coburn.

"Testing is important if it identifies people early on and provides access to healthcare," responded Bill Freeman, executive director of the National Association of People With AIDS (NAPWA). "A simple knowledge of one's sero status without access to comprehensive health care is cruel."

"A general lack of understanding"

Despite the large turnout, and the concentration in evidence, some AIDS activists were clearly dismayed. "Ryan White is almost incidental [to these members]," commented Gary Rose, lobbyist with NAPWA. "It seems to me the members are here on these other issues."

Winnie Stachelberg, lobbyist with the Human Rights Campaign Fund, saw the hearing as an indication of "a general lack of understanding about

what the Ryan White CARE Act program is about and what it doesn't do."

"We have a doctor and a dentist on this panel who have very strong opinions on these things. They are concerned about these issues," said Mark Barnes, executive director of the AIDS Action Council. "We as a community need to tap into their concerns and figure out the common ground."

Subsequent hearings, probably in May, are likely to center around testing and prevention issues. The centerpiece is a bill recently introduced by Gary Ackerman (D-New York) that would make HIV testing mandatory for all pregnant women. The bill has 225 co-sponsors, more than enough for passage.

Another area of future contention is regulation of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and its approval of new drugs.

"This is one place where we have to rattle the cage hard and remind people that products and lives are more important than bureaucratic process," said Bilbray. ▼

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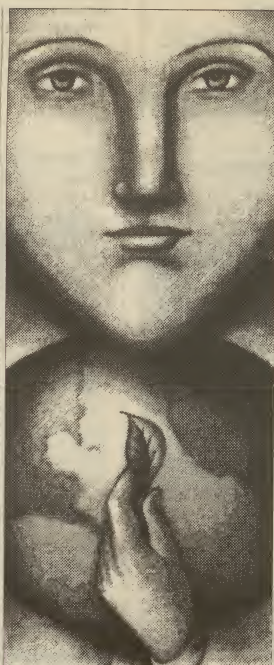
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New CMV Treatment: HPMPC

by Lidia Wasowicz
UPI Science Writer

An experimental drug injected directly into the eye can control a viral infection that commonly causes vision problems in people with AIDS, researchers reported Monday, April 10.

Doctors administered HPMPC, which stands for hydroxy-phosphonyl-methoxy-propyl cytosine, every five weeks to seven weeks and found the drug provided relief from

cytomegalovirus, or CMV, retinitis with minimal serious side effects.

The study results, reported in two papers in two journals, are of particular interest to people with AIDS, an estimated 30 percent of whom suffer from the often debilitating and even blinding eye infection.

Standard therapies have had the major drawbacks of requiring daily intravenous anti-viral injections, causing severe side effects and losing effectiveness within 60 days to 100 days as the virus develops resistance to the drugs.

"Vision loss is one of the most devastating side effects of AIDS," said Dr. William Freeman, University of California, San Diego, professor of ophthalmology and principal study investigator.

"We are hopeful this new treatment will prevent blindness and help patients maintain their quality of life."

The researchers conducted three studies with 33 patients: a phase I safety trial with nine patients; a phase II safety and dose-escalating trial with seven patients, and a phase II efficacy trial with 17 patients.

The subjects, who either had failed to improve with standard treatments or had declined the conventional intravenous anti-viral therapy, were found to develop long-term control of CMV retinitis following the HPMPC injection. ▼

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Randy Allan Sumners May 6, 1954 - April 8, 1995

After a four-year battle against AIDS, Randy died in Sunol, California.



With him were his parents, Lenore and Bob, and his brother and sister-in-law. He is survived by his former companion, Mark Bauer; long-term friends, Roger Inkpen, Georges Liem, Joey Sughrone and Lyle Cassard; and by his more recent

companion, Charlie.

Randy was born in San Francisco, grew up in Fremont, and lived in San Francisco for over 18 years. He attended Irvington High, studied music at San Jose State, and graduated from Cal State Hayward.

Randy was a talented musician, composing unique and complicated arrangements. He also worked as a flight attendant for World Airways for over 12 years. Few airports in the world hadn't seen this strikingly handsome, charismatic man.

Randy had an unflappable self-confidence and a steel-like constitution that even illness couldn't diminish. Most of all, he taught us how to stand up for ourselves.

We will gather to celebrate Randy's life. For more information call 621-8649.

From Berlin to Bali, and Cafe Flore to the Eagle, we will miss you. Thanks for everything...it was the flight of our lives! "Aufwiedersehen, my love!" ▼

Jack Lynn Bennett

April 17, 1949 - March 28, 1995

Jack passed away quietly on Tuesday after many years of living with AIDS.

Born in Tyrone, Penn., he lived for 25 years in Hayward, Calif., where he enjoyed camping, entertaining and collecting Oriental art. He will be remembered for his generosity, kind spirit and entertaining his friends.

He is survived by a daughter, Delaina Bennett; a son, Todd Bennett; and many friends. A memorial gathering celebrating Jack's life will be held April 23. For information call (510) 537-6735 or (510) 339-9860. ▼

Robert Emmet Chermack

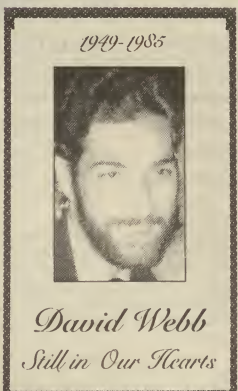
Oct. 14, 1959 - April 2, 1995

Bob finally crossed over on April 2 surrounded by family and friends at his parents' home in Sonoma.

He lived life to its fullest, with a sharp tongue, quick mind, and hearty sense of mischief and humor. A salesman personified in energy and congeniality explicitly describes Bobby's demeanor. I'll sorely miss him here, but I know that I'll see my little buddy for more grins in another time.

Donations in memory of Bobby should be sent to: Valley of the Moon Hospice, 370 West Napa St., Sonoma, CA 95476 and/or Face to Face, P.O. Box 1599, Guerneville, CA 95446.

Thank you, caregivers, for your loving support. ▼



Bill C. Sparks

Oct. 5, 1951 - Jan. 8, 1995

Bill Sparks ("Sparkles") died peacefully after 10-plus years with AIDS. Bill loved many things; however, four stand out. Family, friends, food, music - OK, make it five - and coffee. When Bill was diagnosed HIV positive and returned, after several happy years in San Francisco, to Wisconsin, he sought and created

a treatment plan for himself, mixing Western and Eastern medicines. Out of this he became a macrobiotic chef, founded a buyers' club for vitamin supplements and Chinese herbs, spearheaded AIDS Information Milwaukee, and organized an alternative treatment center, People With AIDS/Milwaukee.

Bill believed in reincarnation, and we know he will be back!

Our friend and teacher of life is survived by his husband, Henrik Christensen (they were legally married in Denmark); his brother, John; his sisters, Penny and Judith; and his parents, Warren and Lorraine Bohlinger, as well as friends too numerous to mention. A memorial will be held locally on Saturday, April 15. Please call Craig Davidson at (510) 843-7913 for information. ▼

Marc Anthony Madary

June 3, 1956 - March 31, 1995

Marc passed away peacefully on Friday, March 31, in the hospice wing at Kaiser.

He fought a courageous struggle for five years against an AIDS brain disease of PML.

Twenty-one years ago, Marc hitchhiked from Colorado to San Francisco in search of a new and guilt-free life. A high school dropout, this handsome youth with sunny blond hair and dancing blue eyes met Les Balmain, a waiter, at the Mint. It was an instant match and the beginning of a lasting, ever-growing union of love.

In 1980, Marc found his vocation by going to work for the Bank of America. With 10 years of loyal and determined service, Marc advanced to operations manager, where he endeared himself to many employees.

Marc is survived by his companion of 21 years, Les Balmain; best friend, Michael Polansky; and brother and sister-in-law, Monty and Debbie Madary from Grand Junction, Colorado.

A gathering to celebrate Marc's life will take place on Sunday, April 23, 2-5 p.m., at 70 Beaver Street, SF. For info please call Les at 282-9126 or Michael at 252-0333.

Donations in memory of Marc may be made to the AIDS Memorial Grove. ▼

Alan L. Thrall

June 9, 1958 - April 7, 1995

Alan's struggle with AIDS is now over. He was at peace with himself, friends and family.

Alan traveled the world and finally made his home in San Francisco, working at Image Leather for several years. His vast video collection will be enjoyed by many for years to come.

Alan is survived by his lover, Dan; his parents, Stella and Louie; aunts and uncles; cousins; and very special friends.

Many thanks to Dr. Jill Legg, Sasha, Lauri, Steve, Eric, Kate, Ward 86 and the staff on 5A at San Francisco General. Donations may be made in Alan's name to Visiting Nurses and Hospice or Project Open Hand.

At Alan's request, no services will be held.

"...May God hold you in the palm of his hand, my love."
"Grain Thu I Geonai." ▼

Roy Scott Gatehouse

April 11, 1958 - April 5, 1995

Scott was born in Washington, D.C., and raised both there and in Maine. He



was a graduate of Georgetown University in international studies. Scott was an employee of Pacific Bell in San Francisco and Hawaiian Tel in Honolulu. He returned to San Francisco for his exceptional health care. Thank you to the gang at the Infusion Center, especially Iris.

Scott's social nature often found him and his friends sitting around a table, if not gorging themselves, then playing cards. His intense love of Spades made him both a shrewd partner and a worthy adversary. His passion for food was greater yet. By watching CNN he maintained an active interest in international and current affairs.

Scott's warrior spirit kept him fighting long after the battle seemed lost. To the very end he would not accept death as an option. His boundless positive attitude is the light he leaves behind. With the help of conventional and alternative therapies, Scott was able to enjoy the remainder of his life with dignity.

Scott is survived and missed by his devoted mom, Lois; dad, James; brother, Gary; sister, Jamie; niece, Krystal; nephew, Gary Jr.; and many friends both on the Mainland and in Hawaii.

Mahalo, Scott! ▼

Lawrence Campbell Glasser

Feb. 16, 1952 - March 6, 1995

At his home on Monday evening,

March 6, Larry Glasser, 43, passed peacefully into the next phase of his existence after a three-year battle with AIDS. With him were his loving mother, Jessie Allison, and his friends, Sandy Paganucci and Paul Chiemiango.

The noblest, sweetest man, Larry gave copiously of his love and understanding to all who knew him. Throughout his life he gained a deep spirituality and became the person he always wanted to be, seeking out and helping others despite the travails of his illness.

Larry was born in New Jersey and moved to San Francisco in the early 1970s. He was a popular bartender at several area bars, including Fife's in Guerneville.

Larry is survived by his loving family: parents, Jessie and Robert Allison; sister and brother-in-law, Heather and Art Cornielussen; brother and sister-in-law, William and Kathy Glasser; numerous nieces and nephews; his two best friends, Sandy Paganucci and David Salinas; his loving friend, Paul Chiemiango; and his adoring dog, Orbit.

A memorial service celebrating Larry's life was held at the 7th Avenue Presbyterian Church March 9. Donations may be made to Alcoholics Anonymous and Visiting Nurses and Hospice of San Francisco. ▼

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Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization - and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar and taste.

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap.

Deadline for all obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m.

Scientist Cautions Heterosexuals About New HIVs

Substrains 12-100 Times More Infectious to Straights

United Press International

BOSTON - The Chairman of the Harvard AIDS Institute warns that four strains of HIV that are headed for the United States - and may already be subtype here - are more easily transmitted through heterosexual sex than the strain that has affected the American and European gay communities.

Dr. Max Essex told an AIDS conference at the John F. Kennedy Library in Boston on Wednesday, April 5 the four powerful strains have already infected 15 to 30 million people in Asia and Africa.

Unlike the B strain that is epidemic among homosexuals and IV drug-users in Europe and

the United States, the substrains A, C, D, and E are 12 to 100 times more easily transmitted through vaginal intercourse, Essex said.

Heterosexuals contract the B strain an average of once per 500 to 1,000 sex acts, while the other strains are transmitted among heterosexuals once per ten to 40 sex acts, he said.

"When they move to the west, we must be prepared for a more aggressive epidemic," Essex said.

Harold Jaffee, the head of the Centers for Disease Control's AIDS division, said there is no evidence any of the new strains have come to the United States, even though the virus has clearly been in Africa for 20 years.

Essex, however, warned that if they are not here, they eventually will be.

"We really don't know if they are in the U.S.," he said. "It's logical to assume that they should be."

The Harvard virologist said blood tests can detect all of the HIV virus strains, but cannot tell the differences between them.

He said it is essential to detect these viruses before an epidemic is full-blown and millions of people start showing symptoms of AIDS. Essex and others at the conference urged more funding for AIDS research to stave off the strains.

An estimated 1.5 million people in the United States are now infected with HIV. ▼

AIDS-Related Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma Trials To Begin Here

by Kent Brandley

Calling AIDS-Related Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma "one of the fastest growing areas of concern for people with AIDS" - particularly among long term survivors - Bill Martin, a gay man who lives in Washington, D.C., was in San Francisco last week talking to community organizations as well as HIV primary care physicians and oncologists [cancer specialists] about the need for a community forum on incidence increases.

Martin, a community liaison employed by Interscience Communications, was also seeking volunteers for a clinical study on the efficacy of the drug mitoguanzone dihydrochloride (MGBG) as a therapy for relapsed or refractory AIDS-related non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. The longer people with AIDS live, the greater the chances of getting Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma, he told the B.A.R.

MGBG is an experimental drug that has shown some anti-tumor activity in patients with solid tumor cancers, including relapsed non-HIV-associated non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

Unfortunately, MGBG can also reduce the blood cells in bone marrow, which can make a person vulnerable to infection, cause fatigue, or make patients bleed easily. Transfusions will be made

available if needed, according to literature about the study provided to the B.A.R.

Local sites for the clinical trials will include San Francisco General Hospital, Castro Street Clinic, and UCSF Mount Zion Cancer Center. Principal investigators are Lawrence Kaplan, M.D., at SFGH; Izan Silverburg, M.D., at the Castro Street Clinic; and Donald Northfelt, M.D., at UCSF Mount Zion.

Other sites for MGBG trials throughout the U.S. are also seeking voluntary participants, according to Bob Witek, a spokesperson for the international pharmaceutical firm Sanofi-Winthrop.

Primary eligibility requirements indicate prospective study volunteers must:

- Have failed at least one potentially curative regimen for lymphoma;
- Not be receiving any other investigational agents except antivirals available through compassionate use programs; and
- Not be pregnant.

All study medications are provided at no cost to participants. ▼

For more information on the clinical trials in San Francisco, call 1-800 AIDS-NHL (243-7645).

UCSF: All Non-Hodgkin's Lymphomas Are Not Alike

by Kent Brandley

"Lymphoma, non-Hodgkin's: Any cancer of lymphoid tissue (found mainly in the lymph nodes and spleen) other than Hodgkin's disease."

"Non-Hodgkin's lymphomas vary in their malignancy according to the nature and activity of the abnormal cells. ... In most cases of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, the cause is unknown. ... It is suspected that HIV ... permits other viruses to cause lymphomas."

- Excerpted from The American Medical Association Encyclopedia of Medicine.

A recent study conducted by UC San Francisco researchers indicates that people with AIDS patients contract two different types of Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma - with different survival periods.

"HIV-infected patients who have a polyclonal form of Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, rather than the more common monoclonal form of the disease, have longer survivals," the study

found, according to information provided to the B.A.R. by Alice Trinkl and Carol Fox, spokeswoman at San Francisco General Hospital Medical Center.

"Polyclonal and monoclonal lymphomas are distinguished by the differences in their molecular characteristics," said Dr. Michael McGrath, UCSF associate professor of laboratory medicine at SFGH, who co-authored the study. "Monoclonal lymphomas are derived from a single tumor cell which proliferates, forming the tumor from the unregulated growth of the single cell."

"All the cells in a monoclonal tumor are identical, coming from the same genetic material," McGrath said. "Polyclonal tumors, on the other hand, are made up of cells that are not genetically identical."

The UCSF study is published in the April 1 issue of *Blood*, a national medical journal dealing with hematology.

"Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma is a type of malignant tumor that affects between five and ten per-

cent of HIV-infected individuals. Most of these patients are diagnosed with the monoclonal form of the disease," the researchers said, "and the majority die in less than a year from the time of diagnosis."

Of the 45 patients in the study, 25 had the polyclonal form of the disease and 20 had monoclonal lymphoma. After 38 months of observation, all of the patients with the monoclonal

Continued on page 26

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HEALTH NEWS

The Point of Needle Exchange Is To Save Lives

by Matthew Sharp and Melissa Bernstein
ACT UP/Golden Gate Writer's Pool

During this time of drug prohibition, needle exchange is one of our better hopes for preventing HIV infection among people who shoot drugs. Currently there are only a few places in the world where the exchange of needles is accepted and government funded. Needle exchange has the lowest priority in U.S. HIV prevention efforts, mainly because of politics and the stigmatization of drug users, gays and lesbians, people of color, and people with AIDS.

A new extensive analysis from researchers at the CDC highlights the need for effective needle exchange. The report states nearly three quarters of the new 400,000 HIV infections are among drug users. Three out of four new HIV infections are people who use drugs; half of those are people who use drugs intravenously.

ACT UP/Golden Gate questions the definition of a drug "user" in these statistics because there is a common misrepresentation of this population. The definition should include use of crack, cocaine, speedballs, marijuana, amphetamines, and other street drugs — as well as alcohol and prescription drugs. Clearly, as AIDS continues to drastically effect these people's lives it emphasizes the need for competent needle exchange with available drug treatment programs, safer sex education, and adequate federal funding for those efforts.

The reasons for withholding NEPs (Needle Exchange Programs) are complex — and at the same time very typical of our system: restricted existing state syringe laws, drug prohibition, biased theoretical assumptions of needle exchange from the federal government, and inappropriate funding.

According to Peter Lurie, epidemiologist at UCSF's Center for AIDS Prevention Studies, there are 76 NEPs nationwide in 55 different cities. He believes that state paraphernalia and pharmacy laws are the impediment to implementing NEPs. Some jurisdictions are declaring states of emergency in order to allow needle exchange to happen. However, the state of emergency protects the volunteers of the needle exchange from being arrested but doesn't protect its clients from having their newly exchanged clean sharp points confiscated by undercover cops down the street from the needle exchange site.

Recently Alameda County was the scene of a blatant attack on needle exchangers and their clients. Volunteers were arrested for exchanging needles, prosecuted, and — thankfully — acquitted. Several members of the jury called the exchangers "heroes." What then do we call the people that come to these sites to exchange for themselves, their family members, their lovers, and their friends?

Needle exchange in pharmacies is becoming more popular, though rare. Unfortunately pharmacies will not accommodate all users — some pharmacists have expressed their biases about having hard-core addicts come to swap needles: "What would it do for business?" Furthermore, having needle exchange in pharmacies is not the answer during prohibition when people would have to "out" themselves in a straight perceived world. In a scenario where a woman with children under the age of 18 tried to exchange her points at a pharmacy, we question whether Child Protective Services might be called. If institutionalization occurs there will be a trade-off between the program's efficiency and the trusting relationships that street exchangers develop and use to advocate for their clients.

Lurie's report showing the effectiveness of needle exchange in HIV prevention was released in September of 1993. The report has received support from every governmental agency, from the CDC to the Department of Health and Human Services. What's missing is a release by the Clinton Administration of a review report on Lurie's study, written by the CDC. The report's findings that needle exchange "are likely to reduce HIV transmission" and that "no data exists indicating increases related to NEPs in either drug use or in the number of discarded syringes" are as clear as we can get.

Lurie said that any further research would be unethical because a control group that would not offer clean needles would have to be part of the study design. But, he asks, "How much proof do we need? Officials must understand the reality of needle exchange in terms of life and death."

Skeptics, such as Pete Wilson, say there is a



Out with the old, in with the new.

need for more research and that needle exchange promotes drug abuse. The CDC report goes on to say, "... We believe that the benefits of NEPs as a component of a comprehensive HIV prevention program for drug users exceed the theoretical risks of such programs. We conclude that the ban on federal funding of NEPs should be lifted. ..." But the Clinton Administration and Pete Wilson continue to hesitate — while our friends and families continue to die.

At the present time over a million needles are being exchanged each year at San Francisco's NEP, Prevention Point. Add in the costs of alcohol preps, cotton, bleach, condoms, and other items needed to be safe at the exchange, and the cost rises. The median budget for an American NEP is only \$169,000 a year. Funding of NEPs as a prevention effort is a growing problem due to the right wing's new control of the budget. But even more complicated in the medical field is the debate between money budgeted for prevention and money promised for treatment.

We believe that needle exchange is both prevention and treatment when we look at the program from a broader perspective. The needle exchange advocates and draws out oppressed people to create access to resources in the community, such as legal agencies, alcohol and drug abuse centers, children and family services, clothing, showers, dental services, domestic violence/rape crisis centers, housing, food, healthcare, social support.

ACT UP/Golden Gate continues to support both treatment and prevention funding, with no borrowing one from the other.

AIDS is more than ever a consequence of the drug epidemic. Public health and society at large need to understand the scope of drug use and deal with appropriate educational campaigns, drug treatment opportunities, and outreach efforts.

Even deeper than that, we as individuals need to question what we know about drug use in all levels of society. Why is it socially acceptable to swallow a pill in a restaurant — but taking that same pill and making it into a powder to inhale it or melt it and shoot it into your vein changes the meaning? We have to change our perception of people who use drugs, so that prevention efforts such as needle exchange become accepted and endorsed. Other answers to effective prevention in needle exchange are full funding, relaxation of the law, and our officials totally embracing the disaster that AIDS is.

Until we realize as a society that this epidemic will never come to an end unless we prevent infection in all people, the light at the end of the tunnel may be unattainable. ▼

Matthew Sharp is an AIDS treatment activist with ACT UP/Golden Gate and Director of the Healing Alternatives Foundation, the AIDS Buyers Club. Melissa Bernstein is also a member of ACT UP/Golden Gate and is a street outreach worker and needle exchange volunteer with Prevention Point. ACT UP Golden Gate meets every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at 592 Castro Street, upstairs.

Finding a Niche

by Michael C. Botkin

My distaste – some might describe it as contempt – for the “gay slicks” regularly expressed in this column has drawn some criticism. The complaints can be roughly generalized as amounting to a failure to get with the contemporary trend. The day of the radical gay rag has passed, I’m told, and even the small zine is becoming passe. So I’ve decided to go with the flow. If you can’t beat ‘em, join ‘em – so I’ve come up with some ideas for my own “niche” publications of profitable, slick gay magazines.

Part of my previous problem was my somewhat antiquated journalistic ethic. I believed that a publication justified its existence by serving a specific readership and providing a unique editorial voice. This, of course, is more of a 19th-century attitude than a contemporary one. Nowadays the crucial element is the presence of an identifiable, profitable demographic subgroup which can be sold to mainstream marketers. Having finally grasped this point, my projected publications are all designed with profitable demographics in mind.

Thus my first proposal is for a very slick publication to be titled *Diva!* This would be the first magazine specifically targeted at gay opera queens. We can claim, for example, that in fact the majority of males who voluntarily attend opera (as opposed to the large proportion of husbands who are dragged reluctantly along by their socially ambitious wives) are homosexual. And as for demographics, what a dream!

Opera is not cheap. Opera-goers, gay or otherwise, are not chintzy. There may in fact

be budget opera queens, but this is a purely relative judgment – the cheapest opera buff probably spends more on their hobby than an extravagant rock music fan. The advertising for operas alone, with their high ticket prices, is probably quite lucrative. Then there are the various opera accessories: ankle-length mink opera cloaks, ruby-studded cloisonne red-ribbon pins and any number of pricey toys.

Aside from such specialty advertising, the affluent readership should be quite attractive to mainstream advertisers of big-ticket items like cars and premium booze. Few subgroups can have the “high discretionary incomes” of American opera queens! The demographics of the average readers of *The Outvocate* pale by comparison.

Pussy-loving lesbians

Next in line are two publications for queer pet owners. The first, aimed at lesbian cat owners, would be called *Pussy*. The other, targeting gay dog-keepers, I call *Metropolitan Hound*. Although these constituencies aren’t as well-heeled (you’ll pardon the expression) as opera queens – but who is? – they still represent potentially lucrative markets.

We can argue that pro-cat lesbians are perhaps a majority of the female homosexual population. “Lesbians who care about pussies” can be the magazine’s slogan.

And while women in general earn less than men – which may explain the current dearth of lesbian-oriented publications – it is likely that pussy-loving lesbians spend an inordinate proportion of their “discretionary incomes” on their cats. The same can be claimed for gay dog owners.

Advertising in these maga-

zines would necessarily be focused on specialized products rather than the most profitable mainstream big-ticket items. Still, the market for rainbow pet paraphernalia, for Jesse Helms chew-toys for dogs and for specialized gay-friendly pet services (like

recent research has shown) that the gay community, despite the claims of gay demographers (and, ironically, Republican politicians), isn’t better off financially than our heterosexual counterparts.

Since they swallow these claims without challenge, we can’t be blamed for taking advantage of their willful ignorance. This is the basis for my next niche publication, *Pink Elephants on Parade*, “The Magazine for Gay Republicans” (special thanks to Janet Rosen for helping coin the title, which, of course, comes from the Disney movie *Dumbo*).

On the one hand we can claim that gay Republicans are dripping with fat and, obviously, lack the judgment to avoid patently bad deals. On the other, it does involve us in the deception that there are enough gay Republicans in existence to justify a publication aimed at them.

This certainly isn’t true, but gay Republicans themselves heavily promote the notion that they’re a statistically significant subgroup, despite the lack of objective data. And the mainstream, always glad to bash the progressive nature of the queer community and to promote conservatism in all its forms and manifestations, has expressed its usual gullibility

in accepting gay Repubs’ absurd claims. Thus we’re merely trading on a popular fallacy rather than being its prime promoter.

I don’t know how much market there is for gay Republican tchotchkes – I haven’t seen many of them myself – but we can sure go for the mainstream marketers of things like big expensive cars and even houses. And with the Republican primaries looming, there might even be some decent political ads coming up. Of course, most of the Republicans running for president have nothing but contempt for gays, even gay Republicans, but they’d probably be willing to solicit them for money for their campaigns.

I know this last project sounds particularly cynical, unrealistic, and pointless, but this is gay publishing in the ‘90s we’re taking about. You have to go with the flow, to swallow any scruples based on editorial principles or such outmoded notions as honesty or realism. If you don’t like it, too bad. You have to get with the modern trend. If I did it, you can, too; it should turn out to be quite profitable in the long run, after all. I can hardly wait to see the first issues of *Diva!*, *Pussy*, *Metropolitan Hound*, and *Pink Elephants on Parade* hit the newsstands. ▼

Commentary

“Pink Paws” gay pet kennels) should be enough to underwrite the publications.

I suppose it may be something of a challenge coming up with relevant articles for these magazines, but given the low editorial standards currently the rule in other gay niche publications, this seems a rather minor problem. If excessively fluffy copy were considered a serious drawback, none of them would flourish.

Pink elephants

Occasionally one does have to stoop to outright lying in selling these niche publications. I assume that none of the mainstream advertisers buying space in the *Outvocate* and similar magazines have bothered to check on the inflated claims of the Lavender Dollarists selling them, or they would have discovered (as



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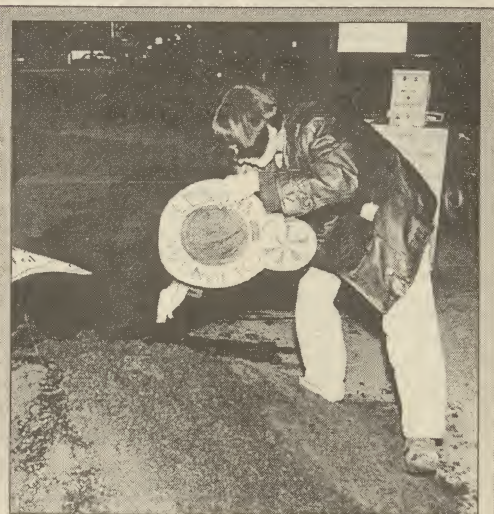


Photo: Jane Philomen Cleveland

Full of It

The Lesbian Avengers show KSFO Radio and shock jock Tom Kham just what they think of their tactics: chicken crap and bullshit. Kham has declared war on the group and broadcast their hotline number over the air. According to Avenger Katie Hern, furious calls from Kham's fans included death threats to the Avengers. The dumping incident April 9 outside KSFO headquarters was the Avengers' response to Kham's harassment.

When Gertrude Stein Was There

by Mary Ann Swissler

Sixty years ago this week, Gertrude Stein and her longtime companion Alice B. Toklas were the toast of San Francisco. The pair stayed at The Mark Hopkins Hotel, were photographed by Imogen Cunningham, and were featured in the pages of *The Oakland Tribune* and *San Francisco Chronicle* as ambassadors of culture.

Stein "loved publicity, and she talked with everybody who wanted to talk to her," according to Berkeley author Renate Stendhal, whose book *Gertrude Stein in Words and Pictures* was published last year. Toklas, on the other hand, never wanted any part of the spotlight. "She only completely supported Stein. She did

it with a passion, not like a servant," explained Stendhal.

On April 13, 1935, on the return trip to San Francisco after appearing at Mills College, Stein took a detour through the Oakland neighborhood of her childhood. (At age 17, she had moved with her brothers and sister to San Francisco, where her brother managed the family business, Omnibus Cable Car Company. Her mother died in 1888, followed in three years by her father.)

Except for a few family visits early in the 20th century, Stein's 1935 trip was her only extensive trip through California since moving to Paris in 1904. The lecture tour, which focused on the mechanics of language, produced what is arguably Stein's most widely quoted but

least understood comment of her long, widely quoted, and greatly misunderstood writing career. Two years later she wrote in *Everybody's Autobiography*, "There is no there there." Yes, it was about Oakland - however, all she was referring to was the absence of her childhood home on Thirteenth Avenue.

But the sentiment stuck. Even those who are unfamiliar with Stein's work probably know that statement about the less-famous side of the San Francisco Bay.

At Mills and elsewhere, she gave the same speech about language and how it ought to be applied to poetry and fiction. Stein, said Stendhal, dazzled her audiences despite the somewhat dry subject matter. "She'd go into analyzing what a noun does, what a verb does, what a

comma does. She hated commas; she hardly ever used them," she said. Stein said as much during a lengthy interview with a *Chronicle* reporter, telling him, "Punctuation is necessary only for the feeble-minded."

UC Berkeley was not impressed. Stein was considered too trivial to speak there, so she delivered her lecture on language at the International House in Berkeley.

San Francisco resident Gertrude Atherton made many of the arrangements for dinners and trips around town.

Stendhal said that she did not know if Stein and Toklas visited other members of the gay and lesbian community while in California. Queers just were not the topic of polite conversation, and thus not made part of recorded history. ▼

EEOC

Continued from page 1

To be protected, plaintiffs would have to demonstrate that they have the genetic defect and that the employer discriminated on the basis of that genetic characteristic.

The initial impact will be to offer some legal protection to those with family histories of predisposition to some forms of cancer, heart disease, and other maladies. It will remove fears that employers who use a growing array of tests capable of identifying those risks might discriminate against employees or applicants who test positive.

In addition, the ruling may

also open the door for attorneys to argue in court for inclusion of homosexuality under this workplace protection.

The argument may go as follows: Research has strongly indicated a genetic component to at least some incidents of homosexuality; homosexuality is, statistically speaking, an abnormality; for many decades medical science regarded it as a disease - in fact, a number of practitioners still do. Therefore the plaintiff should be protected from workplace discrimination because of his genetic makeup.

It remains to be seen whether or not the arguments are made - and more importantly, whether the courts will buy them. ▼

Non-Hodgkin's

Continued from page 23

al form had died, while seven of those with polyclonal disease were still alive.

"Our analysis has identified a specific sub-group of HIV-infected lymphoma patients whose clinical outcomes were different from all other HIV-related lymphoma cases," said Dr. Lawrence Kaplan, UCSF associate professor of medicine at the UCSF-affiliated San Francisco General Hospital. Kaplan was principal author of the study, Trinkl said.

Patients in the study who survived the longest were those with polyclonal lymphomas and CDR lymphocyte blood counts

above 200/mm³, researchers reported.

"The study shows there are molecular characteristics of these lymphomas that may be important in clinical outcome, and it suggests we should look at other ways to treat these patients," Kaplan said. "The pathogenesis, or what makes these polyclonal tumors grow, may be different from the more common monoclonal tumors."

Polyclonal lymphoma patients might be good candidates for more novel therapies rather than the standard chemotherapy treatments, Kaplan said.

Numerous other UCSF faculty based at San Francisco General Hospital co-authored the study, Trinkl said. ▼

Stalking

Continued from page 4

with the San Ramon Police Department, has denied threatening or stalking Carney at any time, and told the *Bay Area Reporter* their encounters were coincidental.

Windeler said the first chance meeting occurred in Mid-March, after he made arrangements to meet his current roommate, Ian Dolensek, in the vicinity of Powell and Market streets. Dolensek was late, and Windeler entered the San Francisco Shopping Center to use the restroom.

Windeler said he spotted Carney and tried to avoid him, but was unavoidably forced to pass him on his way out.

During the brief encounter, according to Windeler's testimony to the court, Carney said "Mark, Mark, how are you?" Windeler told the judge he tersely responded, "Fine, what's up?" and kept walking. Carney has subsequently claimed Windeler made a death threat at that time, cryptically referring to a legal dispute between the two.

Both men acknowledge they were close friends prior to an auto accident in which Windeler said his vehicle was rear-ended by an uninsured driver, after which Carney sued Windeler's auto insurance company.

About a week after the mall encounter, Windeler and Dolensek saw Carney again, in a public parking lot at the Fillmore Center where Carney lives. Windeler has said he and his roommate were seeing a movie at the Kabuki 8 theater in Japantown and decided to park in the public lot after failing to locate a parking place on the street. Carney has said he does not believe that explanation.

On the way out of the garage, Windeler told the court, he and Dolensek encountered Carney walking in. He said they briefly looked at each other, and then looked away.

After the Friday hearing, Carney told the *B.A.R.*, he has hired Sausalito private investigator Scott Grasser to pursue the case. ▼

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Stoddard

Continued from page 16

journalist Sander Vanocur. At the April 7 taping, Stoddard's views were opposed by ILGO attorney Paul O'Dwyer, who argued, "The St. Patrick's Day Parade is not a parade with a specific message other than everyone is Irish for the day."

"We're a part of the [Irish] community, and we have a right to march," O'Dwyer said.

R.B. Quinn, legal director of The Freedom Forum First Amendment Center, said the First Amendment applies if there is expressive activity. "But, there are times when equality is going to trump liberty. The Court has said that an intrusion by government into private affairs is wrong," said Quinn. "But freedom of association is not absolute. If we take these issues one at a time, we're more likely to produce positive results." ▼

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Let's begin by wroo

CALIFORNIA NEWS

ACT UP/LA

Continued from page 1

That night Clinton and First Lady Hillary were wined and dined at the home of director Steven Spielberg. Attending the \$50,000-a couple dinner were, among others, Barbara Streisand, Whoopi Goldberg, Sharon Stone, and Spielberg's new DreamWorks SKG partners, Jeffrey Katzenberg and openly gay mogul David Geffen. Entertainment was provided by Robin Williams and k.d. lang, who sang apparent Clinton favorites "Constant Craving" and "The Right to Love." The night raised almost \$2 million for the Democratic Party.

The next morning - Palm Sunday - the Clintons attended mass at the earthquake-torn Cathedral of St. Vibiana, not too far from the Midnight Mission on Skid Row. Some Catholics are angry that the Church intends to spend over \$43 million dollars to tear down the historic cathedral instead of restoring it for less money.

The Clintons seemed a bit taken aback when they were greeted on arrival at the cathedral with shouts of "Bill Clinton, you can't hide. We charge you with genocide!" from AIDS activists

who'd been alerted about his quiet visit. About ten members of ACT UP/LA held signs such as "While Clinton lies, people die: AIDS Cure Now" and chanted slogans from behind a yellow police tape directly across from the motorcade's entrance.

Cardinal Roger Mahoney presided over the mass and later gave Clinton a copy of the Pope's latest encyclical "The Gospel of Life," his strongest dictum yet on the sin of abortion. As the activists waited for the mass to end, several Operation Rescue demonstrators arrived with gruesome pictures purporting to be of torn and bloody fetuses. As the worshippers left the cathedral, they were funneled by police past both the OR and the ACT UP demonstrators - who made loud comments about priests who tell women not to use condoms for birth control, but use condoms themselves to have sex with men.

Although some parishioners were obviously angered by the comments, the AIDS activists seemed happy that they made their point, and that they were clearly seen by the Clintons, Mahoney, and federal Housing chief Henry Cisneros - who gave them a "thumbs up" sign. There were no incidents and no arrests. ▼

LEGAL NOTICES

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 967973

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of ANN KATHERINE VELOZ for change of name. The application of ANN KATHERINE VELOZ for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application the ANN KATHERINE VELOZ has filed an application proposing that HER name be changed to KATHERINE MARIE XAVIER. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 18th day of April, 1995, at 9:00 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this day of March 13, 1995.

March 23, 30, 1995, April 6, 13, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 194382

The following person(s) are doing business as VALENCIA CREPES AND COFFEE, 1007 1/2 Valencia Street, San Francisco, CA 94110; HANI JWEINAT, 8 Verano Drive, South San Francisco, CA 94080. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of March 27, 1995. This business is conducted by individual. Signed HANI JWEINAT. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on March 27, 1995.

March 30, 1995, April 6, 13, 20, 1995

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 194611

The following person(s) are doing business as GOLDEN GATE HEARING SERVICES, 1400 Franklin Street, San Francisco, CA 94109; LAWRENCE M. ENG, 1919 Octavia Street, #1, San Francisco, CA 94109 and STEPHEN E. DARMAN, 1919 Octavia Street, San Francisco, CA 94109. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of April 1, 1990. This business is conducted by general partnership. Signed LAWRENCE M. ENG. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on April 4, 1995.

April 13, 20, 27, 1995, May 4, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 194612

The following person(s) are doing business as CKSF, 759 Oak Street, San Francisco, CA 94117; NICOLA GOGAN, 759 Oak Street, San Francisco, CA 94117. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of April 3, 1995. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed NICOLA GOGAN. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on April 4, 1995.

April 13, 20, 27, 1995, May 4, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 194489

The following person(s) are doing business as BERNAL BOOKS, 401 Cortland Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94110; RACHEL PEPPER, 203 Ogden Street, San Francisco, CA 94110. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of March 30, 1995. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed RACHEL PEPPER. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on March 30, 1995.

April 13, 20, 27, 1995, May 4, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 194506

The following person(s) are doing business as ON THE GO MOVERS, 1712 Sunnydale Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94134; BRENDIA STRINGER, 213 Blythdale Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94134. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by individual. Signed BRENDIA STRINGER. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on March 31, 1995.

April 06, 13, 20, 27, 1995

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 194545

The following person(s) are doing business as POSTAL ANNEX + 179, 3701 Geary Blvd., Suite 101, San Francisco, CA 94118; GERALD C. BEHREND, 312 Warren Drive, San Francisco, CA 94131-1034. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by individual. Signed GERALD C. BEHREND. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on March 31, 1995.

April 06, 13, 20, 27, 1995

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 194382

The following person(s) are doing business as VALENCIA CREPES AND COFFEE, 1007 1/2 Valencia Street, San Francisco, CA 94110; HANI JWEINAT, 8 Verano Drive, South San Francisco, CA 94080. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of March 27, 1995. This business is conducted by individual. Signed HANI JWEINAT. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on March 27, 1995.

March 30, 1995, April 06, 13, 20, 1995

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS STATEMENT FILE NO. 188335

The following persons have abandoned the use of the fictitious business known as ON THE GO MOVING COMPANY, at 1704 Sunnydale Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94134.

The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on July 20, 1994. Name and address of registrants: 1) JOSEPH HOLMES, 103 Blythdale Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94134; 2) BRENDIA STRINGER, 213 Blythdale Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94134; 3) LESTER HAWLEY, 213 Blythdale Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94134; 4) ROMANICA GRAYSON, 65 Blythdale Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94134; 5) KENYA EDDIE GATO, 1722 Sunnydale Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94134; 6) ANTHONY HODGES, 1722 Sunnydale Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94134; 7) ELIZABETH VAQVASA, 1800 Sunnydale Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94134. This business was conducted by co-partners. Signed: BRENDIA STRINGER.

This statement was filed with County Clerk of San Francisco County on the date March 31, 1995. Bruce H. Jamison, County Clerk-Recorder, by Joanne Huynh

April 6, 13, 20, 27, 1995

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 194620

The following person(s) are doing business as HUAN SHENG FURNITURE & HARDWARE COMPANY, 38 Grafton Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94112; ZHEN SHENG LI, 38 Grafton Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94112. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of April 4, 1995. This business is conducted by individual. Signed ZHEN SHENG LI. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on April 4, 1995.

April 13, 20, 27, 1995 May 4, 1995.

HEALTH AND COMMUNITY

AIDS Benefits Counselors: Professional review and counseling about benefits for people with AIDS/HIV+. Free. For intake scheduling, screening, referral, call 558-9845.

AIDS/HIV Nightline provides telephone emotional support and crisis counseling. Volunteers needed; training begins soon. 984-1902.

Bereavement Support Group for Partners of PWAs. Also: Coping with Multiple Loss Support Group. Sponsored by Visiting Nurses and Hospice of SF. 750-4404 x 21680.

Boy + Boy: actions which promote safe sex among young gay and bi men. Tues., 7pm at Stop AIDS Project, 201 Sanchez. 575-1545 x80Y.

Chinese Medicine & HIV: update by Abigail Surasky, L.Ac., free. Tues., Apr. 18, 7:30pm. Rm 1200C, Kaiser Permanente Med. Ctr., 280 W. MacArthur Blvd., Oakland. (510) 596-6848.

Coming out group for lesbians: Fri. mornings, 10:30-12, facilitated by Nathalie Paven, LCSW. Operation Concern, 1853 Market St. 626-7000, x. 127.

DNCB Support Group: Meets 2nd & 4th Mon. at 194 Church St., 7:15pm. Call 954-8896.

East Bay HIV/AIDS 12 Step Support Group: Ongoing. Open to all with HIV who have experience with any 12 step program. Mon. eves., 6:15pm. Info: Paul (510) 465-4311.

Ellipse-Peninsula AIDS Services: Support groups, emotional & practical buddy program, food program and case management for PWAs. 572-9702.

Gay Men's STD/VD Clinic: Testing & treatment by & for gay men, free, every Sun. 5-7 pm. HIV antibody anonymous testing for women & men 12 or older, every Sun., 5-7 pm. 2339 Durant Ave at Dana, Berkeley. Wheelchair accessible. 644-0425 (non-voice TDD 548-8238 for disabled).

Gay Young Spirit, a new gay young men's social group (18-35) with a focus on spirituality, meets every other Thurs., 7:30pm, in SF. Call 703-7181.

Haight-Ashbury Free Clinics' Drug Detox, Rehabilitation and Aftercare Program, counseling and HIV education, free. Hector, 565-1909.

Healing Alternatives Foundation maintains public HIV/AIDS Treatment & Resource Library. Also Buyer's Club for health products. 1748 Market St. Info: 626-4053.

Hepatitis "B" Testing and vaccinations for young (15-23) gay and bisexual men, free. Berkeley Free Clinic, 2339 Durant Ave., Berkeley. Sun., 5-7pm. (510) 644-0425.

HIV/AIDS Services at Operation Concern: Ongoing support groups, individual and couples counseling, drop-in groups every week. Issues for HIV- men, men with AIDS/ARC, partners and survivors. For information/intake, call Jill, 626-7000 x199. Operation Concern, 1853 Market St.

HIV Testing, Counseling and Education: free, anonymous, offered by Blow Buddies and the AIDS Health Project. Fri., Apr. 21, 10pm-12:30am. 933 Harrison.

Home Care Companions offers free home care skills training. Apr. 19-25, 7-10pm. Advance registration required, call Cell Adams, 824-3269.

Immune Enhancement Project treats persons with HIV-related illness using a program of traditional Chinese medicine and herbal supplements. Info: 252-8711.

Project Open Hand provides free home-delivered hot meals and free groceries to anyone with symptomatic HIV in San Francisco and Alameda Counties. Various ethnic and restricted diets available, plus free nutritional counseling. No waiting list. Call 1-800-551-0061.

Q Action: Work with other queer boys to stop HIV transmission among young gay and bi men. Info: 621-7177.

UCSF AIDS Health Project offers: (1) ongoing groups for persons diagnosed with KS; (2) Tues. night support group for women who are caregivers or family members of PWAs; (3) support group for HIV+ African-American heterosexual men. Info: 476-3902.

Visiting Nurses and Hospice of SF seeks volunteers hairstylists and barbers to offer haircuts to patients with AIDS and other life-threatening illnesses. Jeri Lynn, 750-6800. x 21699.

Women's Cancer Resource Center: Support, resource & advocacy group for Bay Area women with cancer, their friends, families & doctors. Provides individual peer counseling & drop-in support groups, newsletter, educational programs, legal workshop & more. (510) 548-9272 or 548-WCRC. 3023 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley.

Send Health and Community Listings to: Calendar Editor, Bay Area Reporter, 395 Ninth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103.

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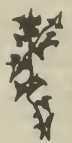
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Send resume with a cover letter, det. int. in pos. and salary required to: Director of Administration, Desert AIDS Project, 750 South Vella Road, Palm Springs, CA 92264. DAP is an EOE.

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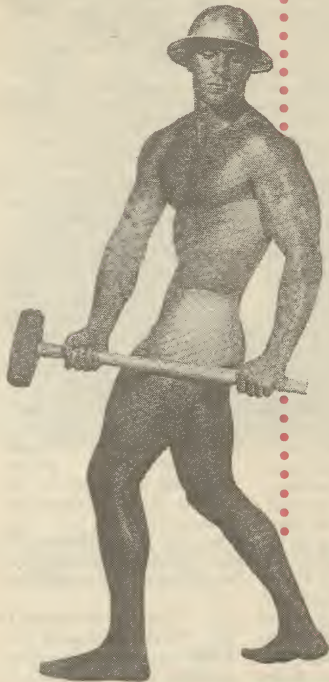
The History of Beef

by Jeffery Kennedy

Beefcake:
The Muscle Magazines of America 1950-1970
by F. Valentine Hooven, III; Benedikt Taschen

Soloflex commercials. The cover of Greg Louganis' autobiography. Calvin Klein CK scent ads. Images of scantily-clad, or near naked, men designed to be admired are virtually everywhere these days. But this hasn't always been the case. As F. Valentine Hooven III demonstrates in his lavishly illustrated and fascinating book, *Beefcake: The Muscle Magazines of America 1950-1970*, the path from early 20th century men's magazines to today's International Male catalog was built by gay men through artistic endeavors, business acumen, legal battles, and a whole lot of nerve.

Continued on page 42



Ken Siman's 'The Beauty Trip'

by Justin Zane

Ken Siman, author of the enigmatic *Pizza Face*, is back in print with *The Beauty Trip*, a book about beauty, or more precisely, beautiful people.

The book is structured, more or less, as a monologue in which the author circulates among the beautiful (at fashion shows, nightclubs, gyms, beauty contests) and asks them what it's like being beautiful. Chats with the facially- and bodily-advantaged confirm our worst fears: beauty really is only skin deep and makes life easier for those who possess it.

Continued on page 40

Photo: Christopher Makos

The Lavender Low-Down

The 38th SF International Film Fest

by Chris Culwell

New films by Gregg Araki, Abel Ferrara, Wayne Wang, Chantal Akerman, Claire Denis, and a tribute to Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger are just a few of the pleasures awaiting patrons of the 38th San Francisco International Film Festival, which gets underway April 20 in San Francisco at the Kabuki Cinema and the Castro Theatre, and in Berkeley at the U. C. Theatre and Pacific Film

Continued on page 37



Photo: courtesy of Tsai Ming-Liang

Hsiao-kang gets off in Ming-Liang's *Vive L'Amour*.

THEATRE

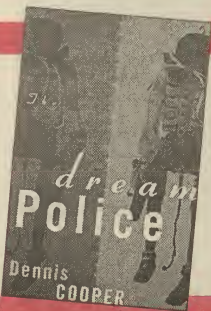
'A Moon for the Misbegotten' reviewed

page 36

BOOKS

Friedman on Dennis Cooper's 'The Dream Police'

page 38



PORN

Rod Cazzo on 'Below the Rim'

page 50

INSIDE

Out There.....34
BarTalk.....44
Calendar.....46
Mr. Marcus..48
Personals.....51

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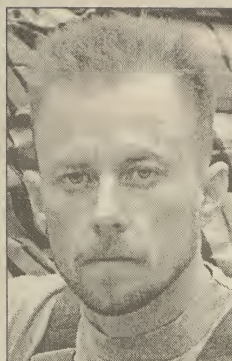
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Photo: David M. Allen

OUT THERE



Clark Kent



Loren Cameron

Correction: The photo that ran two weeks ago was not Clark Kent, it was an impostor; the photo above is the real Clark Kent.

by Clark Kent
and Connie Casserole

Connie sometimes likes to think of herself as the Andy Rooney of her generation. She thinks that the national lesbian ad campaign for Tuaca Liqueur is pretty cool — three dykes cavorting around their highball glasses (in a sponsorship tie-in with *Bar Girls*, of course). But she can't help wondering, how come the gay community gets targeted by so many lame forms of alcohol? Last year it was Pusser's Rum. Does anyone remember Jubilaeum?

Speaking of Drinking: Connie almost fell off her chair when she heard about Elka Gilmore's new deal at Liberte. On Sundays you can get an all-the-wine-you-can-drink three-course dinner for only \$39.95. Save us a crate of Chianti.

Lesbian Free Enterprise: Looks like the 14th Street lesbian entertainment corridor is fully under way for all your breakfast and tattooing needs. A new dyke-owned and run tattoo shop is opening soon just next door to The Bearded Lady Cafe. Proprietors Idexa and Natalie still haven't given the ink-and-needles stand a name at press time, but our scruffy yet reliable source says that some of the joint's talented tattooists will include Beth Calahan and Diane di Massa (creator of lesbo comic hero *Hothead Paisan*). Now if some dyke would just buy that laundromat across the street.

To Protect and To Serve: The girls at Bearded Lady are keeping everyone updated on the condition of Mel Stapper, the lesbian firefighter who was seriously injured last month in an SF fire. An info sheet on Mel's condition as well as a drop-off envelope for letters of support and contributions are kept next to the counter there. Her friends and family can certainly use all the support we can give. Latest word is that Mel's lungs are healing, and her condition is gradually improving. Now's your chance to voice your good wishes and encouragement for a brave public servant and a much-loved figure in the SF dyke community.

Lesbesh Histories: Photographer Loren Cameron opens his newest show, *Body Alchemy*, at 848 Art Space (848 Divisadero, San Francisco) on Monday, May

1, 7-10 p.m. The show runs through June 1 and features 23 new photographs, including the stunning "New Man" series which presents images and text from transsexual men talking about their experiences. Loren's last opening at 848 was completely mobbed, so be there early if you want to see the pictures. With readings at 7:30 p.m. and at 8:30 p.m. by Susan Stryker, David Harrison and James Green, it's sure to be another sell-out. Admission is \$5. Regular gallery hours are 1-5 p.m. FFI: (415) 765-7658.

They Call It Cottaging in England: In last week's *Bay Guardian*, Susie Gerhard reveals the truth about low-budget queer filmmaker Charles Herman-Wurmfeld and his toilet-paper thievery from the *Guardian* offices. Charles assures us, however, that he never raids the toilets of friends or non-profits. If his new feature, *Fanci's Persuasion*, takes off after its premiere at the Lesbian & Gay Film Fest this summer, maybe Charles can afford to buy some Charmin.

Hanging Out at 16th & Valencia: Our editor just hates it when we give him items that have lots of names in them and are really just one big long run-on sentence, so we do it whenever we can: Clark stumbled into the Roxie last week to watch *Fear Strikes Out* (couldn't resist Tony Perkins as a mentally ill baseball player with an abusive father) and ran into Pansy Division's Jon Ginoli bantering with Doug Mobley and Hector Arias (aka the Roxettes); what with Hector spouting Muriel's *Wedding* dialogue and Doug nudging Jon to spill with the Australian rumors that Pansy Division were Green Day's boyfriends (an amusing rumor which is unfortunately not true), Clark almost missed the movie (which was produced by Alan Pakula, who happens to be Jennie Livingston's uncle).

Keanu's Compromise: Chastity Bono gives the graphic details of her life — from child star to lesbian — in the April 18 *Advocate*. Judy Weider's interview is worthy of *The Star* or even the *National Enquirer* in its nonstop barrage of detailed intimate questions. Chastity's psyche is played out in gruesome detail for all us sympathetic queer readers. And there's only one really good quote from Chas in the whole 10 pages: "Actually, [David] Geffen tells the funniest story: Apparently, I walked in on him in the bathtub, when he was naked, and I made some comment about how my Dad's dick

was bigger than his." But was it bigger than Kristy McNichol's?

It's Festival Time Again: Well the SF Straight Film Festival is looking pretty queer as usual. Of course, we knew all the gay stuff before the catalog came out because we asked program coordinator Marc Smolowitz and publicist Nancy Fishman, and they told us. There's tons of queerish programs at the Castro: some Visconti films; the restored Powell-Pressburger classic, *A Matter of Life and Death*; Gregg Araki's *The Doom Generation*; G.W. Pabst's silent masterpiece, *Pandora's Box*; Chantal Akerman's *Portrait of a Young Girl in the Late Sixties*, in Brussels; the German hit film of 1994, *Pretty Baby*; and the French Cesar Award-winning feature, *Wild Reeds* (this screening is co-presented by Frameline and dedicated to the memory of Mark Finch).

And then there's the Akira Kurosawa award presentation on April 22. We have to say we were rather amused at the recipient, Stanley "Singin' in the Rain" Donen. He has made some good films over the years (we're looking forward to seeing *Funny Face* on the big screen). But he's also responsible for one of the most appalling gay portrayals ever committed to celluloid, 1969's *Staircase*, a tale of two gay hairdressers (played by Richard Burton and Rex Harrison) and their miserable lives in London. All we can say is that Donen is preferable to Leni Riefenstahl (who was rejected when several staffers apparently threatened to resign if she were given the award).

Silence = Death: Our exclusive lesbian operative at the United Nations 39th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women held in New York last month brought back lots of dirt for *Out There* readers. Apparently there were "tons of lesbians" there (and at least two members of government delegations were seen dancing at La Escuelita, a Latino drag club near Times Square). But it seems that the SF-based International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission (IGLHRC) is the only queer group officially a part of the UN's World Conference on Women coming up in September in Beijing. Maintaining the old "if you'd just keep your mouth shut, no one would bother you" angle, the Conference's Secretary General Gertrude Mongella told IGLHRC's Rachel Rosenthal that if she saw her walking down the street, she wouldn't know she was a lesbian. Hence, what need was there for lesbian human rights to be addressed at the conference?

Lesbian Highjackers: IGLHRC's ongoing petition and letter-writing campaign to the UN resulted in what came to be known as "the lesbian pile," a massive stack of papers in Mongella's offices. And the visibility of the campaign prompted the circulation of a flier from a family values group declaring that the conference was being "highjacked by lesbians." IGLHRC will continue lobbying to make sure there's inclusion of lesbian issues in the official Platform for Action document that's approved at the conference. FFI: (415) 255-8680. ▼

MUSIC

Meg Mackay at the Plush Room A Little More Edge, Please

by Chad Jones

Meg Mackay's talent as a singer is unquestioned. The woman possesses a unique vocal instrument that allows her to swim gorgeously through her lower register and sail through her big Broadway-style belt. Her first album, *So Many People*, released last year, demonstrated her good taste in material and her robust way with a song.

Her recent cabaret act, which debuted for a short run last week at the York Hotel's newly renovated Plush Room, provided ample opportunity to appreciate Mackay's instrument, but the intimate setting did little to reveal Mackay's character.

Unlike the CD, where voice is everything, cabaret requires more from a singer; it requires a demanding performance. The cabaret singer does not skip merrily up to the stage and just warble a few tunes. A cabaret audience expects a unique and thrilling vocal presence, expressive dramatic interpretation, ample doses of darkness and light, and above all, edge.

Mackay has got the vocals, but her show lacked a distinct cabaret personality. It wasn't about anything — not that the show has to have a theme or any such obvious ruse. But the singer needs to be coming from a specific place and to bring her audience to that place with her. Mackay seemed more than a little insecure on stage, and her banter between songs was brief and silly. Her set-up for "My Brother Lived In San Francisco," a song from the AIDS quilt-inspired musical *Elegies*, could have been the set-up for a



Meg Mackay

joke: "This song is about something really, really serious." The ensuing song could have been about breath mints or toe jam and the set-up would have paid off. But as it was, the sentiment of the song was lost in the anticlimax of the moment.

From the opening number, "It Might As

Well Be Spring," to her encore, "Georgia On My Mind," Mackay hit all the big notes and played all the big spaces. With such a great voice at her disposal it's a shame she doesn't explore the more subtle shades of the material. Her husband, Billy Philadelphia, provided the musical accompaniment, which could account for some of Mackay's "shading" issues. In Philadelphia's hands, each number ends up sounding like a Billy Joel song. For the gospel-tinged version of the Louis Armstrong hit "What A Wonderful World" this style is appropriate, but for the extended Judy Garland section, this style couldn't have been more inappropriate. Imagine "The Man That Got Away" sounding like "The Piano Man"? Not pretty.

The comedy numbers provided welcome relief from the onslaught of torch songs. Ken Prymus' ode to masturbation, "Making Love Alone," was the highlight of the evening. Mackay is a deft comedienne and her show could use more laughs.

Another highlight was one of her own compositions about a dairy cow whose "milkman" has gone and left her leaving the poor bovine quite blue. It's funny material, and Mackay really connects with her audience when she's making them laugh.

Mackay is too good a singer not to be bringing down the house by the end of her show. As it is, she tries to whittle away at the roof with each number. Now that she has quit her day job, which she proudly announced to her opening night audience, perhaps Mackay will have more time to concentrate on bringing some texture and edge to her act. ▼

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Photo: David Allen

The cast of *Once In A Blue Moon*.

Oblivion Postponed

by Chad Jones

Over at the New Conservatory Theatre, the people who sponsor the "Lost Musicals" concerts have resurrected a revue featuring great songs from the forgotten musicals of the '20s, '30s, and '40s. *Once In A Blue Moon* is a must for anyone interested in the history of the American musical, though it won't be a revelation to anyone already familiar with Richard Rodgers or Lorenz Hart.

Cast members Anna Marie Gutierrez, Greg Mackellan, and Scott Grinthal offer pleasant

forays into the trunk of neglected musical gems by the likes of Cole Porter, Irving Berlin, Jerome Kern and Harold Arlen. Highlights include the 1926 Rodgers and Hart paean to impotence *Try Again Tomorrow*, and the 1939 heart tugger *I Can't Afford To Dream*, by Lew Brown. Efficiently directed by Cindy Goldfield, *Once In A Blue Moon* is a great way to hear songs rarely sung and to concentrate on the sterling legacy of our great American composers. *Once In A Blue Moon* continues at the New Conservatory Theatre through April 15. Call 861-8972 for tickets. ▼

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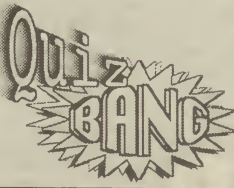
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THEATRE

Berkeley Rep's 'A Moon for the Misbegotten' Saving Grace

by Chad Jones

aching loneliness, unbearable pain and soul-gratifying forgiveness are several of the potent themes Eugene O'Neill grappled with and transformed into his luminous 1945 play *A Moon for the Misbegotten*. Difficult and fragile, the play runs the risk of seeming stilted and boring in anything but the most capable of hands. Berkeley Repertory Theatre's moving new production is, thankfully, crafted by hands more than capable.

With a running time of nearly three hours, *A Moon for the Misbegotten* must dispose of its plot mechanics in acts one and two so the conventional drama can give way to the ethereal, transcendent and almost hypnotic emotion of acts three and four. O'Neill's last play, *Moon* takes its place with *The Iceman Cometh* and *Long Day's Journey Into Night* as an intensely autobiographical exploration of the playwright's family.

A Moon for the Misbegotten is the story of O'Neill's older brother Jamie (called Jamie Tyrone in this play as he was in *Long Day's Journey*) and his paralyzing grief over his mother's death, which led to his losing battle with alcoholism. O'Neill's feelings for his brother are complex, fluctuating from deep devotion and love to disgust and pity. O'Neill refused to see his brother during the final years of the older O'Neill's alcohol-related illness, so the dramatic absolution offered to the fictional Jamie in the play comes from the forgiveness the playwright was never able to offer his real-life sibling.

The character O'Neill created to serve as his brother's confessor is Josie Hogan, a large, foul-mouthed, tough-talking Irish farm girl. She works the Connecticut fields with her sour, crusty father and brags with manly gusto about her blemished reputation. The closest thing she has to a suitor is the foppish Jamie Tyrone, her father's landlord, who spends most of his days and nights drinking at the local inn.

Loathsome secrets

Josie and Jim are drawn to each other, but are too involved in their own isolating personal dramas to get beyond the bantering, game-playing stage of their relationship. Finally, on a moonlit night, Jim and Josie — through various plot machinations — confront one another. Jim, drunk, of course, ends up sobbing in Josie's arms and reveals his darkest, most loathsome secrets, for

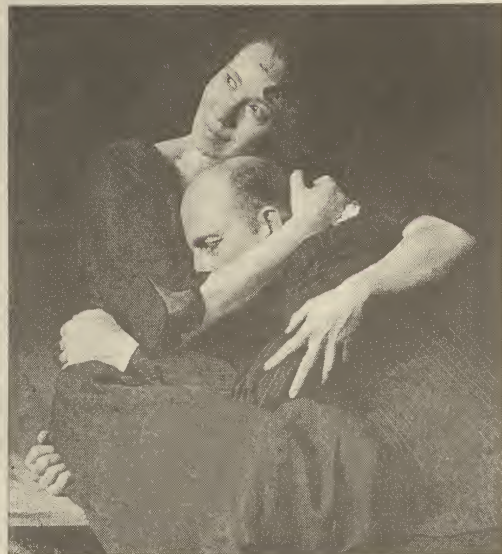


Photo: Ken Friedman

Michelle Morain and Charles Dean in *A Moon for the Misbegotten*.

which Josie forgives him.

The time and care O'Neill takes to set the situation in motion pay off beautifully in this finely crafted Berkeley Rep production directed by Michael Bloom. Charles Dean is sharp and edgy as Jamie Tyrone. Emotionally laid bare before his confessor, Dean crafts a taut, wrenching performance.

Michelle Morain's Josie Hogan is a revelation. Morain's consummate skill allows her to convey the ache behind Josie's bluster with simple, subtle body language and a gorgeously expressive voice. Josie's tentative but grounded posture or the girlish yet austere way she wears her best purple dress belie the shame and the insecurity within her. Rich, passionate and breathtakingly tender, Morain's Josie is the flame by which the rest of the play is illuminated.

With such fine actors at his disposal, director Bloom's work can focus on the creation of the hushed, lyrical tone that must exist for Jim's confession and Josie's absolution to be meaningful beyond their words. Watching Josie hold Jim in her arms on the steps of her ramshackle home, as the couple is bathed in the moonlight, the audience is moved to an altered state thanks to the excellent work of set designer Barbara Mesney and lighting designer Peter Maradudin.

Unfortunate distraction

The only distraction, unfortunately, is Stephen LeGrand's sound design. With the dawn, the

mood changes and we come out of our reverie. The play's creators felt it was necessary to indicate this mood shift with some ill-chosen religious choral music underscored by a saxophone. Transforming the scene into something overtly religious is a huge mistake and threatens to destroy the delicate atmosphere that has been created through the performances and the stagecraft. This giant misstep, along with some uninteresting work in the supporting cast, are merely distractions thanks largely to the transfixing work of the play's central performers.

The success of O'Neill's writing in *A Moon for the Misbegotten* is that although the story of Jim and Josie is profoundly and heart-breakingly sad, there emerges the triumph of beneficence. Josie's unflinching ability to do exactly what Jim needs her to do at the most crucial moment of his life is a gloriously selfless act. O'Neill does not let the play wallow in the glory but brings on the harsh daylight to bring reality firmly back into place and common sense back into the heads of his characters. The sentiment here is clear-headed, not cloying. Josie cannot save Jim, but she can offer honest kindness and with it, the reaffirmation that the human spirit can achieve small moments of grace. ▼

■ **A Moon for the Misbegotten continues at Berkeley Repertory Theatre through May 19. Call (510) 845-4700 for information.**

Make A Date With the Queen

Sixty Dollar Date Productions and the Nahurac Foundation will present an evening of performance and mayhem to help raise completion funds for the final edit of *Queens*, a documentary about pre-op transsexuals produced by Steve Greenberg. *Queens* presents an intimate, honest, and revealing look at a growing subculture living outside the physical and social boundaries of gender. The film is currently

under consideration by the SF and LA Lesbian and Gay Film Festivals. The April 15 benefit will star musical sensation Pussy Torette; the Hail Marys; and a "fierce" drag show. Your life will never be the same again. Be there. Embassy Lounge, 600 Polk St. \$10. The fun starts at 9 p.m. Special advance seating is available by contacting Nahurac Foundation of United Artists at 621-1306. Or call the Queen's Hotline at 441-5402. ▼

FILM



Scene from *I Am Cuba*.

Photo: courtesy of Mosfilm

Fleeting Images Capture Pre-Revolutionary Cuba Visual Splendors

by Garland Richard Kyle

It's the rare film that can reach the cinematic and polemical heights of Mikhail Kalatozov's *I Am Cuba*. With all the grandiosity of an old '60s melodrama, and all the fervor of a quintessential propaganda vehicle, *I Am Cuba* is a remarkable testament to Cold War-era filmmaking.

Described by critics as "an outlandish hybrid of propaganda and aestheticism" (David Denby), "a fabulous beast of a movie" (Stuart Klawans), and "an amazing Cold War artifact" (Dave Kehr), *I Am Cuba* is a truly provocative and engaging film.

Beautifully shot in black-and-white, the film is a lush, often romantic vision of pre-revolutionary Cuba as seen through the eyes of a young Havana woman driven into prostitution, a martyred university student, an old farmer, and young campesino who are cruelly displaced from their land. Laced through each vignette is an omnipresent voice (in

Russian and Spanish) that invokes a poetic, if anguished, voice of a nation struggling for its liberation.

But the film mesmerizes the viewer through the brilliant camera work of cinematographer Sergei Urusevsky, who was clearly inspired by the great Russian filmmaker Sergei Eisenstein (*Battleship Potemkin*, *Alexander Nevsky* and *Ivan the Terrible*). Urusevsky's use of filters and wide-angle lenses gives the film haunting appeal. The camera never seems to stop moving. It surveys everything in its path, from every possible angle and distance, in a surrealistic, almost hallucinogenic pace. At times this relentless visual style works against the film, as the insatiable movement tends to overwhelm the film's four main stories.

Jointly produced by Mosfilm and the Cuban Film Institute (ICAIC), *I Am Cuba* began filming in 1962, just after the Cuban missile crisis. Directed by Mikhail Kalatozov, who won international acclaim for his film *The Cranes Are*

Flying, and written by Russian poet Yevgeny Yevtushenko and Cuban novelist Enrique Pineda Barnet, this heroic tribute to the Cuban revolution is a blend of Russian and Cuban sensibilities, a mixture of "Slavic solemnity with Latin sensuality." American filmmakers Martin Scorsese and Francis Ford Coppola, along with Milestone Films, are credited with its commercial release.

Despite its often revolutionary pretense and comical flamboyance, *I Am Cuba* was an ambitious film for its time, an authentic period piece whose rich images are as stunning today as 30 years ago when the film was made. Whether seen with an eye for its melodramatic flare, or for the epic proportions of its propaganda, *I Am Cuba* is a visual feast, a staggeringly beautiful film that will awe even the most seasoned moviegoer. ▼

■ *I Am Cuba* plays April 14 through April 20 at the Castro Theatre. Call 621-6120 for times.

Film Fest '95

Continued from cover

In addition to the Powell/Pressburger tribute, SFIFF 38 will honor several luminaries of the international cinema: Stanley Donen, master of the American musical (*On the Town*, *Funny Face*, *Singin' in the Rain* and *Royal Wedding*); Suso Cecchi D'Amico, who wrote most of Luchino Visconti's screenplays and collaborated with Michelangelo Antonioni on *Lady Without Camellias* and *Le Amiche*; documentarian Les Blank; and the French Institut Lumiere, whose inestimable contribution to cinema will be recognized in an evening of short films by the Lumiere Brothers.

For lesbian and gay viewers, this year's festival offers lavender goodies from Britain, France, Belgium, Germany, Taiwan, the U.S., and elsewhere. Since most of the films mentioned here will open locally in commercial runs, critical comments will be kept to a min-



Photo: courtesy of Claire Denis

Scene from Claire Denis' *I Can't Sleep*.

imum; a few capsule reviews, however, will help the curious find their way through the confusing maze of titles and names.

Gregg Araki's latest, *The Doom Generation*, has been pegged the filmmaker's most "heterosexual" film to date, though it's hard to imagine any film by Mr. Araki as straight in any sense of the word, given his status as the king, or queen, of

"the New Queer Cinema." This time, Mr. Urban Alienation involves us with a drugged-out threesome on the lam from the cops after one of the trio accidentally blows the brains of a store clerk all over the wall. Cameos by Heidi Fleiss, Margaret Cho, and something called Skinny Puppy will, at the least, give the O.J. Simpson

Continued on page 38

To protect an innocent girl, one man must choose between keeping the faith and breaking the seal of the confessional.

"A TRIUMPH! ONE OF THE BEST AND MOST PROVOCATIVE FILMS OF THE NEW YEAR!"

-Peter Travers, ROLLING STONE

"★★★★! EXTRAORDINARY. An exceptional movie."

-Peter Stack, SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE

"PRIEST" SHOULDN'T BE MISSED!"

-David Ansen, NEWSWEEK



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"Just As I Am... has definitely proved that African-American gay romance has a place in the literary market"

-- Philadelphia Tribune

Sunday, April 16 / 7:30 p.m.

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AUTHOR SIGNING

Scott Peck

author of

All-American Boy

"a wise, sensitive, lyrical, and remarkably moving account," says Bruce Bawer of this memoir of a young

gay man and his military father



Scribner, \$22.00 hc

Tuesday, April 18 / 7:30 p.m.

all events are free and wheelchair-accessible

Selected Poems of Dennis Cooper

Blank Verse

The Dream Police, Selected Poems, 1969-1993
by Dennis Cooper;
Grove Press, \$16

by Roberto Friedman

People who interpret Dennis Cooper's novels, such as *Frisk* and *Closer*, as merely a gay variation on the horror genre have always seemed to me to be missing a huge part of what makes his work important. Yes, there may be a fair share of boy mutilations, snuff scenarios and other gruesome stuff in his fictive world, but all the unpleasantness is conveyed in language that is spare, carefully chosen, poetic. Above all else, this is a literary artist, following in the footsteps of Genet, de Sade and Rimbaud.

Cooper's prose works are a natural extension of his poetry,

which first brought him literary notice. Before there was a Generation X, there was "the Blank Generation," and Cooper staked out its druggy poses and postpunk milieu in poetry collections like *Idols* and *The Tenderness of the Wolves*. Now Grove Press has brought out *The Dream Police, Selected Poems, 1969-1993*, and part of the pleasure of the collection is in seeing just how consistent and focused Cooper has been, from the very start of his literary career.

The poems are presented in three sections, *Dumb* (work from '69 to '78), *Deaf* ('78-'83), and *Blind* ('83-'93). Already in the first poem, "After School, Street Football, Eighth Grade," the author's themes and idiosyncratic obsessions are clear. "One day one guy was very tired/didn't move fast enough, so a car hit him and he sprawled/fifty feet away, sexy, but he

was/dead, blood like lipstick, then/those great boys stood together ..."

Sparkling voice

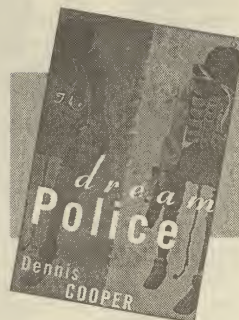
Cooper's appeal has always resided in his voice, which mimics the banality of vernacular usage but, by some alchemical process of emphasis and editing, usually sparkles. Detached, deadpan, at times mordant, the voice of these poems fascinates in its cool appraisal of sordid reality. Drugs, sex-for-pay, rape, murder, dismemberment ... all the greatest hits are here, but they co-exist with idolatry, mystery, irony, even humor. "Then I stabbed/her. It's like/cutting a pie, if you must know."

There are also the rudiments of a class critique in Cooper's observations: "When Thomas said, 'Love's overrated, I said, 'You spoiled/fucking brat.' And I/reminded him, 'Some/boys

have AIDS, re-/tardation,' etc. Stuff/he'd never se-e-en/up in Beverly Hills."

The last cycle of poems included here was evidently produced by the contemplation of a photograph, and there is something of the aesthete in Cooper's stance. An early "Lecture, 1970" gives a sense of where he positions himself in literary history. A later prose poem, "My Direction," in effect equates art appreciation with the "guzzling" of pastries. But you can tell the poet is a true connoisseur. Even a running commentary on the life of JFK Jr. treats the celebrity as a collectible, to be placed in various situations, his inner life scrutinized. The poet takes great delight in the subversion inherent in this game.

Cooper's eye and ear are remarkable, perhaps a tad cruel, but faithful to the truth of



our times in a way most gay writers can't even approach. *The Dream Police* has a bonus, jacket art by Nayland Blake similar to the cover of *Jerk*, Blake and Cooper's nifty collaboration for Artspace Books. The Grove edition should serve to bring both of these artists still wider attention. ▼

Jamming With History

Father of Frankenstein
by Christopher Bram;
Dutton, \$19.95

by Daniel Mangin

British-born James Whale, whose *Frankenstein, The*

Old Dark House and *Bride of Frankenstein* are models of horror cinema, was one of the few openly gay directors during Hollywood's golden era. Two decades after leaving the movie business — many have claimed he was blackballed for being queer — Whale

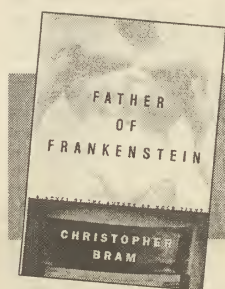
drowned in his swimming pool under mysterious circumstances.

In *Father of Frankenstein*, novelist Christopher Bram jams with history and delivers a fanciful sketch of Whale's last days. The story centers on the ailing ex-director and the fic-

tional Clayton Boone. A hunky ex-Marine, Whale's lawncutter gets caught up in the chaos of his employer's physical and mental decline.

Bram's prose has an evanescent quality that evokes his protagonist's fading consciousness. Drugged and wracked by pain, rushes of memory assault Whale. He grumbles about being remembered solely for his horror films — which he saw as trifles, steppingstones to better vehicles that, for the most part, didn't materialize — but the irony of Bram's tale is that Whale spends his last days fusing Boone with his most famous creation, the Monster in *Frankenstein*.

Father of Frankenstein is a fairly engaging read, though its blending of real life and fiction is an uneasy one. Perhaps because Whale's biography comes ready-made, his psychol-



ogy and motivations are rendered more skillfully than Boone's. A loner and loser who is both attracted to the famous director and repulsed by him, Boone never registers as vividly as Whale, though Bram is fortunately at his best with the character during the novel's climactic sequence. ▼

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Film Fest '95

Continued from page 37

Circus a run for its money. Features spectacular sounds by Nine Inch Nails, Porno for Pyros, Belly, and others. Plays the Castro April 21 (10 p.m.)

Russo alert?

No doubt, controversy will swirl around Claire Denis' provocative new flick, *I Can't Sleep*. Based on a true story, the film revolves around two gay men, Camille, a black drag queen, and Raphael, who, together, killed close to a dozen elderly women in Paris in the late '80s for their money and jewelry.

Additional narrative threads involve a Lithuanian actress, Daiga, who comes to Paris to pursue the empty promises of an egocentric theatre director, now her estranged lover, and Camille's brother, Theo, who wishes to escape the subtle but palpable racism of Paris for the freer climes of his native Martinique.

Although the film's cold, deadpan style is off-putting ini-

tially, the lack of inflection ultimately heightens awareness of both the simplicity of the characters and the depth of their misfortune. The film is a sympathetic portrait of outsiders who, because of ethnicity, gender, and economic status, are unable to find secure footing in an environment that forces them to take desperate measures to survive.

The PC Police will, no doubt, stomp feet and shrill that the film is insensitive because one character is a gay murderer, but Camille isn't dropped in front of viewers as a gimmick or sensational ploy. Furthermore, Richard Courcet plays Camille as a human being with a personality and a story to tell. Film plays the Kabuki May 2 (4 p.m.) and May 3 (9:15 p.m.).

Chantal Akerman, whose minimal narratives typically limn complex themes, is back with *Portrait of a Young Girl in the late Sixties in Brussels*, a loosely sketched story of teenage sexual uncertainty. Michelle (Circe) drops out of school one day and initiates a day-long affair with an army

Continued on page 43

Rudi in the Nudi

Perpetual Motion
by Otis Stuart;
Simon and Schuster, \$24

by Paul Parish

A hero," said a wise child, "is a celebrity who did something." To find out what Rudolf Nureyev did that made him a hero as well as a celebrity, you'll probably have to wait for the next biography. Otis Stuart's splashy book reads at times like a rollicking queenly string of scandalous anecdotes. It's not mean-spirited, like so many celebrity bios, and it's not parasitic (Stuart was a lover of the dance), but it's not a pretty sight to see someone winning his welcome by trading in the stuff of blackmail.

Part of me protests, like the Marchallin in *Rosenkavalier*, "Don't bother me with that trash." Did I really want to know that Margot Fonteyn probably aborted Nureyev's baby? Or that the gunman who paralyzed her husband, the Panamanian diplomat/politician Roberto de Arias, may not have been a political assassin but a jealous husband whom de Arias may have cuckolded?

On the other hand, the idea that Nureyev "leaped to freedom" because he was gay and that the KGB had set a trap for him (by lodging him on tour with Yuri Soloviev, a brilliant,

unstable, and very attractive fellow dancer, who freaked out when Nureyev made a pass at him) is very compelling news.

As you must have heard, Nureyev died of AIDS – and his biographer, who also had AIDS and was racing against the clock to finish his book, has himself recently died. Stuart, who was my colleague at *Ballet Review*, was a great balletomane, and he's assembled a racy backstage tale, rich in dance lore. It's scrappy, though, and much of it is barely substantiated gossip.

It seems clear that Stuart made this book his swan song, and he was determined a) not to overtax himself, b) to make enough money from writing it to pay his bills, c) to have fun doing it, and most of all d) to make it a life-affirming, gay-positive and sex-positive account.

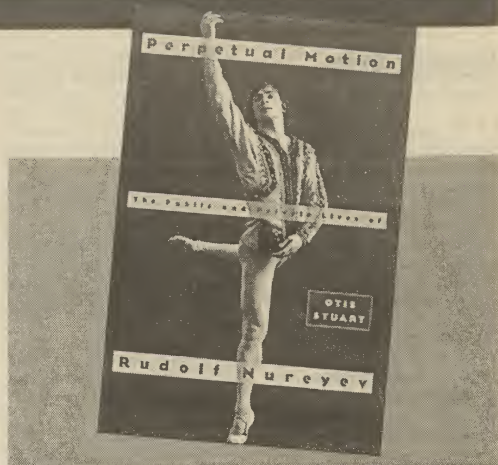
The weaknesses of *Perpetual Motion* may be forgiven if you bear this in mind – but this is not a complete biography. First, Stuart didn't know everything. Many people, hearing he was going to focus on gay sex and AIDS, refused to talk to him. Secondly, he has identified so strongly with Nureyev that the analysis is weak.

Furthermore, his style is not up to describing epic things: Russian winters, Stalin, the squalor and unbelievable poverty of Nureyev's childhood, all come out sounding like Nellie trying to

impress Mary with some Stark Scenes. (There is material only Dostoyevsky could have handled: Nureyev's mother setting fire to their only blanket, to drive the wolves away; or the elderly couple the family shared a hovel with, who'd give young Rudi food, over his communist parents' objections, if he'd pray with them.)

Nor has he placed Nureyev in dance history. Parts of it are there – his impact on male dancing, the way he pulled his lines and danced high on the balls of his feet to make his legs look longer, his desire to work with modern dancers. But his impact is misrepresented. The context we get is mostly celebrity/ pop culture. And even in pop terms, Stuart links Nureyev too much to the Mick Jagger/Marlon Brando archetype.

Nureyev was indeed a charter member of the jet set (and Stuart suggests that he had an affair with Jagger). But when I saw a lot of Nureyev – in 1969 and 1970, when I went to the ballet in London almost weekly – Nureyev's impact on me was more like John Lennon's than Mick Jagger's. Peace, freedom, love, justice, the holiness of heart's truth is what I remember getting from Nureyev in *Romeo and Juliet*, *Swan Lake*, *Dances at a Gathering*. Lennon made high-mindedness a part of rock music, and Nureyev made mass



appeal a part of high art. Both confirmed me in my idealism. There was such striving in him – the image that made him unique was the way he pulled his legs, stretched his lines, lifted his breastbone, opened himself up, hid nothing.

Stuart is more interested in the Nureyev of the '70s, when from the audience it could be seen he was already fading as a great dancer and was taking desperate measures to hide it from himself: dancing himself into a lather, never taking a break, telling interviewers that he danced best when he was tired. He wasn't telling the press that he was getting laid every 12 hours and needed sex like other people need sleep. But many people had noticed that Nureyev looked exhausted; already in the early '70s, when I saw him in

Berkeley, he had lost all his elevation. I'll never forget it: I was beside myself. I thought he was going to die onstage. It was awful; I felt like I'd lost my innocence.

Nureyev's decline was sad, and his refusal to acknowledge it was shocking – and he got away with it, like Liz Taylor and Elvis. Stuart identified so strongly with Nureyev's act of defiance, it's obviously what got him through the day's writing. It led him to cast his net wide for tales of Nureyev's sexual prowess to back up his case that sex between the acts restored his glamour. And he's pulled in quite a haul; it reads like Andrew Holleran in there. I'm glad he did, for nobody else would have, and it is a part of the tale. I feel certain someone else will tell us the rest. ▼



April Sinclair

Photo: Greg Murphy

Authors Discuss The Writing Life on KQED

Beginning April 18, KQED/Channel 9 will present *First Edition*, a six-part series profiling some of America's most important fiction and non-fiction writers. The series kicks off with a profile of **Randy Shiels** (filmed several months before his death in 1994), the award-winning journalist and author of *And Band Played On*, and **Terry McMillan**, who will discuss how the trials and tribulations of the female characters in her novel *Waiting to Exhale* mirror her own relationships. Also featured is Chilean author **Isabel Allende**, who will discuss the roles that loss and grief play in her novels.

Future installments profile literary luminaries **Thomas Keneally**, **Danielle Steel**, **April Sinclair** (4/25); **Anna Deavere-Smith** and **Annie Lamott** (5/2); **Peter Matthiessen**, **Maurice Sendak**, and the indefatigable **Gore Vidal** (5/23). All segments of *First Edition* air at 7:30 p.m. on Channel 9. For more information, call 864-2000. ▼

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Beauty Trip

Continued from cover

For those who aren't naturally beautiful, Siman's book will come in handy, for it underscores the many advances modern science has made in concocting artificial beauty and profiles the colorful, if slightly tortured, psyches that resort to it. Interviews with plastic surgeons, models, photographers, and glamorous celebrities make lively copy as Siman takes us down this rocky road of tummy-tucks, dermabrasion, lip augmentation, collagen implants, and liposculpture. It could only happen in America, a place where, Siman writes, surplus leisure time and money have allowed people to indulge their innermost fantasies about looking good.

As esoteric as it sounds, Siman's interest in *The Beauty Trip* isn't merely to show off his good taste in friends and know-how with plastic surgery. His book is equal parts tortured confessional and documentary of the beauty industry. On almost every page, Siman recounts his painful experiences growing up in the '70s as an acne-scarred outcast whose sole ambition was to look like Shaun Cassidy. Beauty wasn't a source of pleasure, as he'd been taught, it was pure agony: "I had acne so awful," he writes in *The Beauty Trip*, "that I wore only one contact lens so my face would be blurred when I looked in the mirror. I've always considered mirrors to be the true courtroom of beauty."

Being gay, which means you're an instant connoisseur of all things beautiful, didn't help.

In part, the pain of these memories inspired Siman to write *The Beauty Trip*, which, he hopes,

will get people talking about beauty, something the 33-year-old author thinks people are reticent to do. In fact, when I asked him in a recent interview how he looks now after years of working out and two dermabrasion operations to mitigate the visual impact of severe acne scars, the author bristles and quickly changes the subject. When the topic wasn't Ken, however, Mr. Siman proved utterly eloquent and forthcoming on matters beautiful. Our discussion follows herewith:

B.A.R.: What do you want people to get from your book?

KS: Mostly, I wanted to tell an entertaining story. I don't want people to be resentful or angry about being unattractive. I just want people to know that there is something about beautiful people that is worth admiring. Beauty is a very special thing—it's real.

You say it's real yet people go to great lengths to cultivate beauty using cosmetics, complex hair styles, and expensive clothes. People use techniques and things to create the illusion of beauty.

Beauty is not an illusion. Yes, it's true airbrushing does exist, but most of these people [models] are extraordinary looking to begin with. And it's fun to look at beautiful people because it gets people talking about what is and isn't beautiful. And people aren't usually willing to talk about beauty.

Why are people reticent to discuss beauty? What is at risk?

You risk being called superficial, but more importantly, people



Photo: Arthur Elgort

Making a case for beauty: model Christy Turlington in Paris, photographed by Arthur Elgort.

are afraid to have their vanity bruised. Once you acknowledge that beauty exists, chances are you're not a beauty, and that means exposing your own sense of vanity, or your envy for people who are—and that can be painful.

At what point does a preoccupation with beauty become unhealthy?

A preoccupation with beauty becomes uninteresting when one is consumed by it and nothing else. I think an obsession with beauty can be healthy if one uses it to learn to appreciate other kinds of beauty. Plato said that the appreciation of physical beauty leads to appreciation of other forms of beauty. I think it's healthy to be preoccupied for a while with beauty instead of dismissing it.

Do people often tell you that you need to get past the surface person to see "inner beauty"?

You can only tell inner beauty over time. If we could see inner beauty immediately then we'd be spared lots of smarmy relationships and people would be able to avoid serial killers. In the meantime we get only fleeting glimpses of people, so the surface is very important and, often, it's a lot of fun to look at. Look and enjoy.

Is there a relationship between beauty and power?

I don't think beauty is power. People have beauty, for the most part, only during youth. It is more a privilege than it is power. Beauty is the privilege of being able to walk into a room and turn heads. That sounds very trivial, but it's not. It's a tremendous privilege.

Why are gay men so hard on each other about their looks? Why does it matter so much?

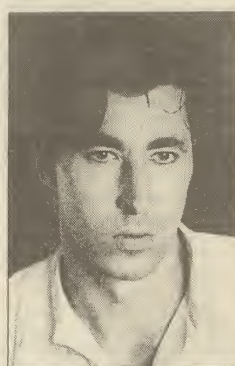
It's a luxury we can indulge because we don't have to worry about families. Men are attracted to beauty because we have the time and money that allow us to explore it.

What advice do you have for unattractive people who are eaten alive with envy when they see a beautiful person?

Envy is always inevitable. But people should use their lack of beauty as a drive for something else. There is a lot you can do if you're ugly.

Like what?

This may sound like a cliché, but going to a gym can improve self-image. It can prevent ugliness. But don't make the mistake of thinking it'll make your life perfect—it's just a way to look better, which means access and social acceptance, that's all.



Author Ken Siman

Do you think lesbians are less strict about beauty than gay men?

Yes. Women tend to place less emphasis on visuals than men.

Why do people always say that lesbians don't have style when clearly what they do in the name of style is very attractive to one another?

Lesbians are more stylish now than ever. I try to get this message across in my book. They're into looking beautiful. There is sometimes an anti-beauty trip going on with some lesbians and a reaction against it from others.

What would you say to someone who asks, "What's so bad about being ugly?"

Nothing, if you're fine with it. Being ugly can make you do extraordinary things. It can make people develop other parts of themselves—like a great sense of humor. I got two books out of being ugly. But I don't want to relive my high school years when people called me "monster face." ▼

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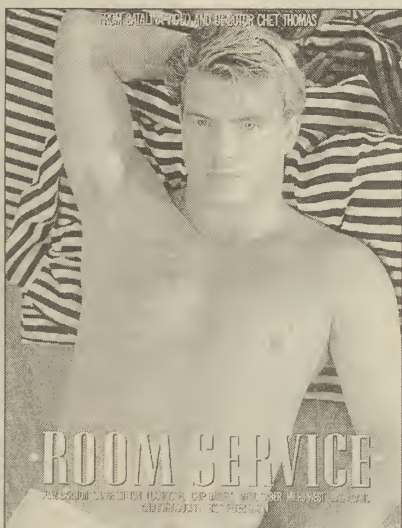
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From 'The Beauty Trip':

desperately tried to convince myself that looks didn't matter. A French egghead said, "Ugliness is superior to beauty because it lasts longer." In other words, screw beauty. Plato said the beauties of the body were nothing compared to the beauties of the soul. In other words, my ugliness was an illusion.

But beauty was too wonderful to be resented or dismissed. I fantasized more about profiles than sex. And I never stopped wanting to be beautiful. Beauty was not goodness, but a visible purity nonetheless. To be made beautiful, free of all flaws, would be a kind of liberation.

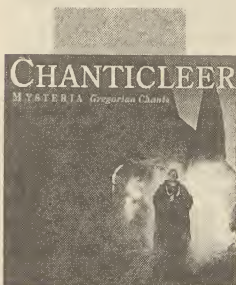
And now, a decade later, after the gym and surgery have made me not beautiful, but okay enough to talk face-to-face to beauty queens about perfect skin without making them uneasy, I can begin this trip.

Evocation of the Spirit

Music for Spring

by Philip Campbell

March went out like a lion, and it looks like spring is finally here. For music of revival and rebirth, nothing can compare with the beauties of the human voice, and some new compact discs of choral music provide the perfect sounds by which to watch spring flowers grow.

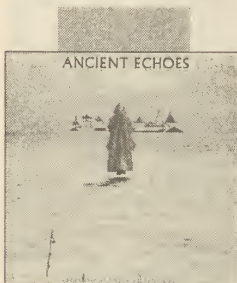


**Chanticleer
Mysteries -
Gregorian Chants
Teldec**

The twelve voice a capella choral group Chanticleer has been around long enough to earn international praise and a devoted local following. Their fifth Teldec compact disc release is a beautiful response to the current demand for chant and is perfectly timed to coincide with the Easter season.

Starting with Ash Wednesday and Lent, they hymn the mysteries of the Passion and Resurrection, ending with antiphons praising Mary.

The Spanish monks who unexpectedly started the craze for chant music are bigger in number and have the undeniable ring of authenticity, but Chanticleer possesses a more perfect sound, and they more than compensate for smaller size with some achingly beautiful solo work and dedicated musicianship. Recorded with crystalline purity in a German church, *Mysteries* is thoughtful listening for this and any other season.



**Chorovaya Akademia
Alexander Sedov,
Director
Ancient Echoes
BMG Classics**

Also celebrating a rich choral tradition, the Moscow-based

ensemble Chorovaya Akademia explores and illuminates sacred and secular works from 19th- and 20th-century Russian Orthodox composers.

The thrilling growls and hums of the justly renowned Slavic bass voice underpin most of the selections on this surprisingly varied and entertaining debut disc for BMG.

One doesn't have to be a believer to respond to this wonderfully mysterious and melodically lush sound. The most famous composer represented is Tchaikovsky, but several gorgeous selections by Dmitri Bortnyansky and Alexander Grechaninov will surely urge music lovers to seek more of their music.

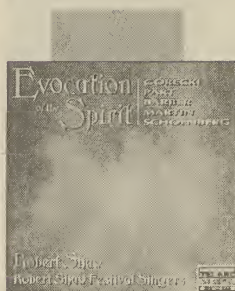
Topping the whole production is a handsome graphic design and interesting liner notes. Recommended for adventurous listeners and conservative musical tastes alike.

**Robert Shaw
Festival Singers
Evocation of the Spirit
Telarc**

Indomitable choral director Robert Shaw defies illness and old age to enjoy a remarkable Indian Summer in the recording studio. It seems like he has a new release every other month.

The latest is an exploration of 20th century choral repertoire performed by his excellent ensemble culled from Boston University, Ohio State University and the University of California at Los Angeles. Shaw has sometimes been criticized for his metric beat and square interpretive stance, but most singers recognize the necessity for sure control of a large chorus, and this maestro's experience is evident in every selection.

Composers Henryk Gorecki



and Arvo Part, who are all the rage these days, are represented by relatively brief and light-hearted (for them) pieces. The hype surrounding their music can't dim the loveliness of their inspiration, but it is Swiss composer Frank Martin's enchanti-

ng little *Mass* that steals the show.

Martin was a young man when he wrote the five movement rite and still largely unformed as a composer, yet his touches of harmonic daring and flirtations with atonality firmly root the score in the present day and justify careful listening.

Samuel Barber's gorgeous *Agnus Dei*, based on the famous *Adagio for Strings*, is worth the purchase price of the disc. It is hard to imagine a better performance of this overwhelmingly beautiful music. Soprano soloist Arietha Lockhart must be praised for her exquisite purity of tone.

Shaw closes his recital with Arnold Schoenberg's *Friede auf Erden* (*Peace on Earth*), but don't be afraid, it plays with atonality without offending and ends on a joyously affirmative note. It inspires as it soothes. ▼

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Photo: Western Photography Guild

Unnamed model from the Western Photography Guild.
Photo was taken in the '60s.

Beef

Continued from cover

'Physique Pictorial'

In the Gay 1890s, Florenz Ziegfeld started the modern commercial exploitation of muscular males by making German strongman Eugen Sandow a household name. Vaudeville exhibitions of strength such as Sandow's, Hooven explains, evolved into bodybuilder competitions where men demonstrated the visual results of their workouts by striking muscle-enhancing poses in front of an audience. The popularity of these competitions eventually led to the bodybuilding magazines of the '30s. After the Second World War, beefcake became so popular that mass circulation magazines ran bare-chested shots of movie actors. Starstruck young men flocked to Hollywood to try their luck, many long on looks but short on talent.

Gay amateur photographer Bob Mizer grew up in Southern California and wanted to help these Hollywood hopefuls. He founded a cooperative for male

models called the Athletic Model Guild (AMG) in the late '40s. Eschewing the traditional headshot, Mizer photographed his models full-length and as nude as the law would allow. The cooperative failed, but Mizer discovered there was a big demand for his photographs. He began selling them through mail-order.

Mizer created *Physique Pictorial*, the first physique magazine, when he began stapling his mail-order photos booklet-fashion in 1950. Looking to drum up business, he took the magazine to a newsstand in a cruisy area of Hollywood. He left with an order for more. Word spread quickly, and other Los Angeles newsstands began to carry it. Mizer increased the magazine's print run dramatically with each new issue; every copy sold. Before the end of 1952, *Physique Pictorial* was available nationwide and in Europe.

According to Hooven, what was new about Mizer's photography was not the subject matter, but how he treated it. Photographers had been shooting male nudes since the invention of the camera. Unlike female nudes,

however, male photographic subjects weren't allowed to be nude solely for aesthetic reasons. But Mizer broke the rules by suggestively posing *Physique Pictorial*'s male models in abbreviated jockstraps, or showing them completely naked with their backsides to the camera, a pretty radical idea for the repressive '50s.

Bruce of Los Angeles

Hooven points out that the ideal male form — broad shoulders, narrow hips, strong chin, high forehead — has been a staple image in visual art throughout history, from Egyptian wall paintings to Christian iconography to physique photography. But one of the few physique photographers to show artistry beyond mere exploitation of flesh was Bruce of Los Angeles.

Bruce began taking physique pictures for men's magazines in the early '40s and continued to do so until his death in 1974. The theatrical style of his work combined with painstaking attention to lighting made his photographs unique. His color works in particular are rich and tactile, and his subjects delicate, seemingly touchable. Contemporary photographers of the male form such as Bruce Weber and Robert Mapplethorpe blatantly cribbed Bruce's style.

Unfortunately, Hooven, who seems more interested in the interchangeable models than the photographers, gives short shrift to Bruce of Los Angeles, reproducing only a few of his photographs and not very good ones at that. (A more representative overview is the 1990 Bruce of Los Angeles monograph published by Bruno Gmunder.)

Masculine mythological themes permeate both physique photography and illustration. The Wild West, Native-American history, and Stanley Kubrick's film *Spartacus* fed physique artists' imaginations. A photo of a gangly guy wearing a cowboy hat and boots with a gun holster hitched up over his posing strap seems ridiculous. Yet these symbols, which play on Hollywood westerns, boyhood storybooks, and the real-life working situations of many Midwestern men, resonate in a profound and subliminal way. Using mythological themes gave physique art a more meaningful, imaginative context.

The anti-dick brigade

The guardians of public morals attacked nearly all publishers of sexual printed matter during the 1940s and 50s, including literary works such as D.H. Lawrence's *Lady Chatterly's Lover*. But they attacked physique magazines with exceptional vehemence because of the magazines' gay sensibility.

For much of the '50s, Hooven asserts, physique magazines weren't just an aspect of gay culture: they were gay culture. *Physique Pictorial* and *Tomorrow's Man*, another physique title, routinely sold over 40,000 copies each. Meanwhile, *One*, the magazine of the Mattachine Society, the early gay rights organization, topped its circulation at 3,500 in 1955.

The campaign against physique photography began as early as 1948, when the U.S. Post Office ordered men's magazines to clean up their mail-order advertisements. Later, Los Angeles County demanded that *Physique Pictorial* conceal the bare buttocks of its front cover models in order to remain on newsstands. Bob Mizer under-

Continued on page 43

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FILM

Film Fest '95

Continued from page 38

deserter, Paul, after the two meet in a darkened theatre. The two circle each others' emotional spheres somewhat ambivalently until they make tentative love in a scene fraught with tender insecurities.

Michelle throws the film in a different direction, however, when she keeps a pre-arranged appointment with the person who just may be the true object of her desire, Danielle (Joelle Marlier). This is one of Akerman's best films to date, warm, humorous, tender. It's also elegantly photographed and edited and makes effective use of music. Plays the Castro April 25 (9:15 p.m.) and Pacific Film Archive April 30 (9:30 p.m.).

Docs and frocks

Three American documentaries of queer interest in the festival are Arthur Dong's *Coming Out Under Fire*, an examination of the role gays and lesbians played in the U.S. military during World War II, and Marlon Riggs' *Black Is ... Black Ain't*, which tackles the heady question, Is there a black identity? Riggs' film screened to great acclaim at the recent Sundance and Berlin Film Festivals, and Dong's *Coming Out Under Fire* has earned accolades at film festivals around the globe. Dong's film plays the Kabuki April 24 (4:15 p.m.). Riggs' film screens April 23 and 26 at the Kabuki (5 p.m. and 1:15 p.m.) and at Pacific Film Archive on April 29 (7 p.m.).

Documentarians Michelle Parkerson and Ada Gay Griffin weigh in with *A Litany for Survival: The Life and Work of Audre Lorde*, which explores through intimate interviews with Lorde a wide range of topics close to the poet's heart: segregation, interracial marriage, reproductive rights, Apartheid,



Chantal Akerman's *Portrait of a Young Girl* in the late Sixties in Brussels.

feminism, lesbian and gay rights and much more. Plays the Kabuki April 30 (7 p.m.) and May 2 (1:30 p.m.).

A not-to-be missed queerish flick in SFIFF 38 is Taiwanese filmmaker Tsai Ming-Liang's *Vive L'Amour*. Although overlong and frequently tedious, the film is built around such a delicious and witty premise that it survives the director's longeurs and unfortunate attempts at Metasignificance. When a bored and withdrawn teenager, Hsiao-kang, finds and steals a key to an abandoned apartment in downtown Taipei, he turns the space into a sacred haven for his own spiritual and mental transformation: he takes long luxurious baths, plays with suicide, pretends he's a pro bowler (using an enormous melon that he later smashes and rubs all over his face), and, finally, dons a frilly black dress and does spectacular cartwheels down a hallway.

When a handsome young straight man invades the space, Hsiao-kang does what any good gay boy would do. Plays the Kabuki April 24 (3:30 p.m.) and 27 (9:30 p.m.), and Pacific Film Archive on April 29 (9:15 p.m.).

And ...

Other queer-tinged flicks worth the price of a ticket include Sonke Wortmann's hit comedy *Pretty Baby*, a film from Germany that explores "masculinity and sex" through lovable characters and situations (more about this next week); French filmmaker Andre Techine's long-awaited *Wild Reeds*, about a group of students who grapple with issues both social and sexual in early '60s France; and short films *Trevor*, a brief coming-to-fagdom flick set in the early '80s, and local filmmaker Daven Gee's *Rising*, a compelling portrait of a family. Lourdes Portillo's *The Devil Never Sleeps* and Marina Zurkow's *Body of Correspondence* round out the mix.

For information about any of these films check out the SF Film Festival program guide, available virtually everywhere, or call 931-FILM. For tickets, call BASS at 415-776-1999. ▼

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Beef

Continued from page 42

standably acquiesced. Most physique publishers cooperated with authorities in order to avoid the public humiliation of an obscenity trial.

Most, but not all. The Federal Justice Department indicted Chicago's Kris Studio in 1958 for producing photographs of male models whose posing straps showed "excessive genital delineation." Simultaneously, the Chicago district court prosecuted the studio for producing photos showing men's dicks. Much to the surprise of the authorities, studio head Chuck Renslow rebelled by pleading not guilty. A handful of similar obscenity cases tried to fight indictments by attempting to prove that their photographs were art, a defense that failed every time. Renslow, however, with the assistance of the American Civil Liberties Union, argued that his photographs were not pornography because the human body was not obscene. The judge decided in his favor. Renslow's case went all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court before the decision stood.

Nonetheless, photographs showing men's dicks remained unacceptable to censors except in health manuals or nudist magazines imported from Denmark. So in 1965, with the intent to provoke the ban on full frontal male nudity, Clark P.

Polak published a dick-branishing centerfold in his *Drum* magazine. The authorities took up the gauntlet and indicted Polak and his publication. The case dragged on for years and, like Renslow's, went all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court, which declared that the male body was not obscene. As Hooen states, "Polak's case made the whole man - genitals and all - photographable."

The beginning and the end

All the fuss around Polak's case increased the public demand for explicit male pornography, which, ironically, helped drive physique magazines out of business. The Athletic Model Guild, the longest surviving physique studio, closed its doors on December 31, 1993. Compared to present-day gay sex rags like *Advocate Men* and *Colt*, *Physique Pictorial* seems quaint. The models are handsome yet ordinary. Although predominantly young and white, they come in different shapes and sizes: hairy, smooth, lithe, beefy. The photographic settings and poses provoke the imagination, and the digest magazine size is easy to hold in one hand.

Perhaps the friendly accessibility of *Physique Pictorial* and publications like it is no longer relevant in today's out-and-proud, AIDS-ridden gay landscape. ▼

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PARTING GLANCES

Courtney's Produce 3/25 - You: a tall, kind man with parents selecting a salad, driving rover. Me: a tall blonde guy, blue t-shirt driving black car. EXT 2504.

Sweet on Your Harley - You said I look sweet tonight (thurs- day 3/30 before midnight) at Van Ness red light on your cycle then you rode on the sidewalk near Max's. Can we talk? I'm interest- ed. Me: blonde guy in silver car. You're Hot! EXT 2604.

3/18 Zellerbach Auditorium - You: blond, artsy, queer boy in blue denim shirt w/ tribal tattoo on forearm standing outside during Alley intermission. You with sexy bearded man w/ glasses. Would love to meet him, willing to share. You're cute, he's hot. EXT 2500.

Sprint Shoot - We saw each other in North Beach, Danilo's bakery during commercial shoot. You blond, red Levi jacket w/ girl friend. Me dark, by myself. You wanted to say hi, but couldn't shake her. Now is your chance. EXT 2501.

Opera Plaza Theater 3/24/95 - Saw you before the movie start- ed. You were talking to an older couple. Our eyes met after the show. We spoke in the bathroom. I was on my way to lunch with a friend. Me: Tall, S&P, hair, goatee. You: Tall, blond, husky, hot. Let's meet. EXT 2502.

G.G. Bridge, 3/26, 5:15pm - You drove Plymouth Colt Vista. I drove Honda Accord hatchback. Enjoyed meeting you. EXT 2503.

Brandon From Burlingame - We met on 12/15 through mas- sage hot lone. Tried to page you to no avail...? I'm a Pisces you are a Gemini. remember? Please call and end my bafflement, Jason. EXT 2505.

Danny - Met you on a Muni train Friday 3/24 in the morning. We both got on @ Castro. You: Dark hair, cute smile. Me: Dark hair, goatee. We talked briefly. Would like to talk some more. Henry. EXT 2519.

Baker Beach - 3/31 I was wear- ing speedo and have a goatee. You were wearing dark blue speedo and kept writing and writ- ing. As my roommate and I left, you and I said hello. Please respond. EXT 2601.

Eros 3/31 - Bob?? - We met in the locker room. I said you were a handsome. You gave someone else a ride home. Would like to get you out your cage for dinner. Call for an invitation. Jimmy. EXT 2602.

St. Patrick's Day GG Park - You: Cute runner w/ bushy mus- tache. Me: Shy walker in red & black. We said "hi" pls call. EXT 2437.

The Hottest Guy In Town - Even the hottest guy in town is not worth you risking your health over. Play safe! Protect yourself & those you play with. Always wear a condom when having anal sex, & don't exchange bodily flu- ids. If you're HIV+, don't panic, get early treatment, talk to some- one that can help, & still play safe. EXT SAFE.

Ford Baseball Cap - Muni sub- way going downtown 7:30am, Fri 3/31. I got on at church St. You: Latin/Italian w/ pony tail and Ford cap. Me: Tall blond dressed in black. We both got off at Civic Center. Your Hot!! EXT 2603.

Collingswood Park - Sun after- noon, 3/26. You: Asian, baseball cap, jeans, shirtless. Walking your dog. We talked about your dog. Me: crew cut, shorts, purple shirt. Would like to see more of you. EXT 2606.

Nob Hill 3/31, 11:30pm - You: White tee, blue plaid shirt, great tan. Me: black tee, blue linen shirt, pony tail, exchanged sever- al glances was too nervous to say hi. would like to rectify that. Please call. EXT 2635.

Douglas, Pleasuredome, 2/19 - We danced. You're about 25-30, 5'9", wnt brown/black hair that falls over your forehead, sexy eyes, and a great smile. I was wearing a baseball cap, jeans, and a blue/purple checked hood- ed sweatshirt. You were definitely hot and I wanted to get to know you but was too shy to let you know it. I'm letting you know now. Cali me. EXT 2644.

Dinner in the City - I went to the Travel Lodge where you were staying & you invited me for din- ner. You where here in the states for 7 day & then you have to go back to Korea. You said you would call me the next day but you never did. EXT 2605.

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

M-M

Buffed GBM 4 Quality GWM - Masculine, muscled, intelligent, spirited, African-American exec seeks versatile, witty, confident, good looking Euro-American hunk for sex, laughs, friendship... maybe more!! EXT 2410.

Goodlooking GLM - 30's, 6'2", brn/bm, buffed, 195#. Interests: Family, friends, music, gym, films, books. Looking for kindred spirits for friendship & maybe more. Ingleside (Stonestown/SF State) resident preferred but all will be considered. EXT 2400.

Asian Lover Wanted - Handsome, WM, 51, (looks 30's), 5'11", clean shaven. Not a sugar daddy, HIV-, w/ a genuine and exclusive attraction to younger Asians. Seeks 25-30, under 5'6", slim, no face hair for long term relationship, sincere, monoga- mous. EXT 2402.

Seeking SF GWM Top For - GWM bottom, LTR oriented, who likes to wine and dine. Generous & affectionate seeks younger HIV+ healthy line for raw penetra- tion. Weekend dates in SF. Me: GWM, 53, 5'11", 220# of non-atti- tude. EXT 2405.

Body Builder - Are you a body builder who likes being admired? Strip down to shorts and pose for me. Explore fantasies. Handsome GWM, 6'1", 175#, 41, HIV-, turned on by muscles. No smoker. EXT 2419.

Making Love is What I Seek - With under 45, gay, bi, even bi- curious man who prefers or can relate well to being with attr older gentleman, 71, 5'8", 160# both in or out of bed for an on going basis. I'm friendly, romantic, sex- ual and open to LTR. EXT 2406.

Buff/Hairy Bottom Seeks Butch Top - I've tried the ads before but had no success. I'm short, hairy, gym toned, 36 years old, GWM. I'm searching for LTR w/ a white or latin top, gym toned, smoking okay, 30 to 40 years old considered to be good looking, please be employed and sincere. EXT 2407.

Exotic Boy Seeks Boyfriend - I'm tall, slim, black hair, brown eyes w/ a European back ground. If you're WM 28-40 who's good- looking masculine and in shape then let's meet. Please be hon- est, drug free and HIV-. EXT 2408.

Looking For Latin Lover - 30yo WM, some say I'm handsome, 5'7", 155#, br/bl. Looking for sta- ble, fun loving, good sense of humor type who is not afraid of commitment. I like movies, music, quiet nights at home & nights on the town. Smoker. If you don't call we'll never know. EXT 2412.

A Real Find - Attractive GAM, 28, 5'7", gym toned, professional. Enjoy the outdoors and the in doors. You: attractive, 26-32, goal-oriented, stable. Race not important. EXT 2411.

Are You a Bottom, HIV+ - Who needs a strong yet sensitive top? Athletic, will-endowed WM, 35, 6'2", 190#, HIV+, seeks 20-35 muscular guy, NS for possible LTR. EXT 2401.

Seeking Friendship Romance - GWM, 28, 5'10", 155#, br/gr, ath- letic, masculine, HIV-, goatee, many interests. Seeking romantic GWM where sex is not the priori- ty of first date. I like 30-40, drk hair, healthy, athletic, mus- tache/goatee a plus, masculine, nice body, sense of humor and not bar scene. EXT 2404.

Lonely Cute AM - 27, swimmer built, smooth body, hairless legs and sexy voice. You: sincere, romantic, sensuous, generous and honest. If you are 6' tall or above, give a ring. EXT 2413.

Santa Rosa Area - Me: Cancer WM young looking 38, 5'8", 147#, brn/bm, 64m toned bubble butt bottom, enjoys working out, danc- ing, travel. You 64m toned 28-40 similar interests topman, scorio drk hair & eyes a plus. EXT 2414.

Hot-Looking, Sexy, Black - Bottom, 6", 160-165#, athletic build, smooth, intellectual. Seeking masculine men of color black men preferred. No heavy drinkers. EXT 2403.

Asian Male Bottom - HIV+ seeks HIV+ tops for friendship or more. 30-45, medium build, GLM/GAM/GWM. I'm 35, 135#, 5'3". EXT 2409.

New Friend? - WM, 50, native of SF. My interests are hiking, the city, stock mkt, travel, my new p.c. movies etc. All ages wel- come. EXT 2418.

19 Year Old - Gay student, 5'11", slim, loyal sincere, educat- ed. You: under 30, educated, sin- cere. EXT 2439.

HIV+, Virgo Top Wanted - Single Taurus in Concord area seeks soul mate. We are thrifty, practical and have a dry sense of humour. I'm 33, brown, blue, 6', 185#, handsome. EXT 2506.

GBM, HIV+ - Some what attrac- tive thin build. Like people but I am extremely shy & very poor with small talk. I'm more into 1 on 1 relationships. I'm a little pos- sessive, but I like being on top. Not very sociable. With right per- son I don't need anyone else. You must enjoy extremely intimate contact. I am into biking, skating, dancing, camping, opera. EXT 2507.

Attractive Young Boy - Very cute, 22yo, boy, slim build, smooth, clean cut, seeking anoth- er attractive guy, 18-24, sincere, humorous, for relationship. Let's keep each other warm on those cold, rainy nights. EXT 2508.

Good Looking Intelligent GBM Sought - By good looking GWM 6'1", brn/hzl, 28, HIV+ for possi- ble relationship. Sense of humor, sensuality, sense of self a must. EXT 2509.

GAM Wants GWM - Hot tip Asian w/ swimmer's built, tan, smooth body, likable ass is look- ing for GWM, 25-35 only. HIV-, fit, handsome masculine, w/ an easy going personality for friendship or relationship. You wont be disap- pointed. Hung and hairy a big plus. EXT 2510.

GWM Balding Blonde Hunk - Handsome, 39yo, 175#, uncut, HIV-, very hairy, great body, enjoys life. You: 30-45, HIV-, NS, into nature, mountain biking, aer- obics, hiking, dancing, quiet evening dinners, movies. Must be gentle, honest, spontaneous, grounded and in good shape. Hairy legs/buns +. EXT 2522.

Hopeful Romantic - Me: 41yo, 6", 185#, handsome, masculine, drk thinning hair, good build, hon- est, loving, romantic, passionate, relationship oriented, definitely a top yet flexible and HIV+, but extremely healthy. You: younger, br/bl, honest, romantic. Us: mak- ing love under the stars, holding hands in the movies, long hours of kissing and nights in front of the fire. EXT 2416.

GWM SF Top Sought by gener- ous, affectionate bottom. Be younger than I and like dining/drinking on weekends. HIV+, healthy OK. We like fun and sex, lots of laughter. Me: GWM, early 50's, 5'11", 220#. EXT 2511.

Caring Mentor/Dad - GWM, 53, 5'10", 185#, HIV-, masculine, NS, professional seeks GWM "son", 30-45, to care for and mentor, ini- tially as close friends, leading to possible long-term relationship. Please no bears, smokers, drugs. EXT 2512.

Lets Snuggle In Front of my TV - Who needs a smoky bar to enjoy an evening? Looking for couch potato to spend quiet evenings with. GWM mid 30's, 175#, 5'10", HIV-, not in shape. Bashful but very romantic. EXT 2513.

Masculine Pin Pal Sought - I'm a 35yo WM doing a life sentence in the Cal medical facility in Vacaville. I know being a convict will distract many people away but please give me a chance. I'm in know need of money just friendship. EXT 2534.

Seeking Relationship - SAM, 25, 5', 110#, HIV-, seeks HIV-, GWM between 19 to 35. Looking for friendship maybe more. EXT 2415.

Seeking Friendship & Maybe More - Attractive Latino 23yo seeks, GWM, Italian, smooth body & professional. You: Versatile, sincere, enjoys music outdoors, NS, professional. Call for a date. EXT 2514.

Married Gent Only - English bachelor, older, experienced in sensuality w/ private abode admires younger man & will do his will exactly, precisely. EXT 2417.

Goodlooking GWM, 37, 6', 180# and HIV+ - Seeks other good- looking white, Latin or Asians men. Friendship first. If some- thing develops after that is fine. I like basic sex (top or bottom), but nothing kinky. Only men between 28-40 need respond. NS, ND, please. EXT 2515.

Looking For Asian - Share my bed my heart. I am in my 40s, professional, sincere. You are younger, slim, educated, ready to settle. EXT 2516.

Asian Lover Wanted - 5'8", 165#, hairy, professional looking for sincere smooth slim Asian for passion, romance, and more. EXT 2517.

Muscular Attraction - Romantic, sexual, monogamous, muscular Asian, looks 30s, 5'7", 150#, mutual body worship, tit play, JO, NS, ND. I'd like to meet a muscular GWM, 35-45, HIV-, w/ similar physique and interests. EXT 2518.

Big Belly & Beautiful - GWM, 36yo, 6'3", 270#, br/bl. I love to love, laugh and I'm looking for GWM/GLM who are btw 29-40yo who like fat men and are roman- tic and in good-shape, if that's you Call!! EXT 2520.

Seeking Passionate Relationship - Me: Sexy, GWM, fin. secure, emotionally and phys- ically fit. HIV-, tan lines, 28yo. I have a "you go girl" attitude. Into reading, politics, running, working out, tropical climates and leading an adventurous life style. Looking to date other gay men with similar interest. EXT 2611.

Sex, Talk & Friendship - I'm hung, horny, and hungry for hot head; also for good talk w/ a bright, imaginative guy. Flesh and words. 5'9", br/bl, 160#, 52, thick and long, scads of interests. You could be hairy, dark, younger. Should be together, sharp, pas- sionate. EXT 2521.

The Hottest Guy In Town - Even the hottest guy in town is not worth you risking your health over. Play safe! Protect yourself & those you play with. Always wear a condom when having anal sex, & don't exchange bodily flu- ids. If you're HIV+, don't panic, get early treatment, talk to some- one that can help, & still play safe. EXT SAFE.

FREE! FREE! FREE! FREE!

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YOU MUST USE THIS FORM TO SUBMIT ADS. PLEASE ONLY USE THE SPACE PROVIDED.

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Bar Talk Personals

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Available only in the Bay Area on touch-tone phones.
You must be at least 18 y/o to call.

Wanted: Hot JO Buddy in SF - To shoot late nite sweet loads of mutual cock worship in mad poet's high pad. I am mature 60s love child, 57yo, 5'5", beautiful legs from running, beautiful smile from boyish love of life & sex. Want man of any age to fall in love with every night. EXT 2524.

Affairs of the Heart - GWM sizzling hot & sexy guy seeks same to share a life focused on love. Should be romantic, passionate, loyal & ready for commitment. monogamy is an absolute!! Should be HIV+ & healthy. Men in leather encouraged to respond. EXT 2545.

Wanted Another Life - Looking for a long term love. I'm incarcerated in Bruno. I'm out Apr. 26. EXT 2523.

Passionate River Phoenix - incarnation, masseur, yoga teacher w/ visions of a powerful world seeks generous noble man in exchange for love. EXT 2607.

Gay Black Male Seeks Friends - Must be bearded and thin. I'm 165#, 38, HIV-. I'm into rock, jazz, and space music, mountains, woods, wild flowers, gardening, vegetarian food, preserving the environment, biking, camping, massage, tree & spirituality. I'm looking for companions who are smart, concerned about environment, positive, and friendly and who enjoy nature. ND, NS, NA. EXT 2608.

Just an Average Guy - GWM, 6'4", 46, 230#, HIV-, brown hair, very blue eyes. You: GWM, over 6', over 40, HIV-, and a nice guy. EXT 2609.

Looking For that "Special Someone" - To spend quality time w/ as a friend; to date and possibly have LTR w/ the right person. Me: Ebay, GWM, 43, dk hr, hazel eyes, attractive, 5'10", 175#, sensitive, romantic, caring. You: 30-40yo attractive, funny, sincere, enjoy music dancing, outdoors, NS, Latin/Italian a plus. Let's meet and talk! EXT 2637.

HIV+ Capricorn Top Wanted - Single Taurus, 33, blonde, blue, 5' foot, 185# in Concord Area seeks soul mate. We're thrifty, practical and have a dry sense of humor. You have a moustache and can roll by hand. EXT 2612.

Friends, Respect & Love - Professional top GBM, 6'4", muscular, 28yo, NS, ND enjoy movies theatre, dancing, romantic dinners, quiet evenings at home, cultural, social and sporting events. Seeking similar professional bottom GM 6'2" or taller NS, ND for dating. Long term poss. EXT 2613.

Seeking SF GWM Top - For affectionate, romantic bottom who likes weekend dining, drinks. Raw penetration preferred. You: younger than I, healthy and humorous. Me: GWM, early 50's, 5'11", 220# of non-attitude. EXT 2614.

Masculine, Tall, GWM - Handsome 43yo, 6'3", 175#, salt/pepper hair, HIV- seeks monogamous relationship. I have a great sense of humor and enjoy travel, fine dining, music, romance & cuddling. You: GWM, 30-45, HIV-, financially secure, tall romantic, affectionate. Hairly, long hair a+. EXT 2615.

Single In Vallejo - GWM, HIV-, 5'8", 140, blue eyes attr w/ model build. Seeks a good friend who is caring, intellectual & considerate of others, cuddles and also seeking a good honest 30 to 40ish, healthy, wealthy & wise friendship. EXT 2616.

Bodybuilder Wanted I want to admire your body, feed you muscle building food and watch your muscles grow. I am GWM, 25, 5'11" thin and cute. EXT 2617.

Fiftieth HIV, GWM - Attractive, intelligent, successful and in search of more attractive fiftieth HIV- men for quality companionship. I offer fine dining, theater, travel, whatever we want. You? EXT 2544.

GWM Seeking GBM - 27, 5'11", 185#, well-gymed, attractive, down to earth who is looking for someone attractive, stable and ready to grow with someone. EXT 2618.

Loving - Lovely Relationship - Not rich or cute, b/bi, 240#, 40yo seeking a cuddly felly kinda guy for friendship, fun, and gentle joyous sex. Give me a call and see what may come our way. You: 25-40yo smoker o.k. EXT 2619.

Need to Share - Established, discrete GWM professional, HIV- couple seeks third party to add to loving non smoking, drug free household. Long term relationship possible with other professional man or student. EXT 2620.

Big Bro - GWM, 34, 6', 150#, br/bl, HIV-, handsome, in shape, versatile, hung, prof., Secure, together & fun seeks curious/open collegiate type WM 18-22 for friendship, nurture and... Discretion assured. ND, flakes or hustlers. Take a chance, dude. EXT 2636.

Too Trusting? - Me too! I could be happier if there were a loving man in my life. I am 5'8", 165#, b/bl, ND, smoker, HIV-, warm, charming, good looks. You too? EXT 2610.

Looking Sexy in Chaps and Boots? - Handsome, b/bl, gym toned, HIV-, ISO a lean, under 35, relationship oriented GWM. Affectionate, politically aware and health conscious A++. If you're looking for a guy you'll want to spend time with, then give me a call. EXT 2643.

SEEKING ADVENTURE

M-M

Enjoy Waiting for the Bus - GWM, 6', 200#, 39, br/bl seeks clean, HIV- men who desire to be serviced orally. Located at Castro Market. Size and race not important. You won't be sorry. Days/Eve available. EXT 2425.

Give Me a Joy Ride - My slim, boyishly handsome prince or studly muscular cowboy! This gdlng Hawaiian body builder 33 w/ v-shape torso, sculptured physique, sun-kissed olive, silky skin, a broad chest ready for your licking, a sweet, luscious ass ready to milk your joy stick to explosive ecstasy! You: HIV-, 18-40, good kisser, gentle yet passionate lover! EXT 2529.

Fat Oral Pig Wanted - You: over 300#, under 6', clean shaven love to suck dick. Me: 6', 200#, balding, 42yo, average endowment. I get off on smooth fat guys sucking my dick. No bears please. EXT 2420.

Hot, Hairly, Tight Latino Ass - Looking for black tops who enjoys fucking Latino ass. I'm 42, slender & hot. I can take a big fat dick at my man hole. Give it a try, you will enjoy, so will I. EXT 2426.

Hypotenuse Sought - For bizarre love triangle. Versatile pale skater to tag team w/ buddy for colossal nubian God. Short, skinny, grunge a plus/HIV+. EXT 2421.

Straight/BI or Latin Wanted - WM, 40, 6', 200#, sucks young 18-20yo cock if you are straight or bi-curious, smooth, skinny and young looking. If you work out, don't answer this add. I like small, skinny masculine guys. Cum over and get your rocks off. EXT 2424.

Are You - A heavy set masculine man who enjoys his cock and balls worship? Long sessions & regular servicing anal. Big balls and verbal abuse a plus. EXT 2427.

Safe Sex Party - Monthly, very selective, must be very good looking, great body, 10-30 men per group depending on space. Check clothes, except underwear/shorts. EXT 2428.

Top Seeks Deep Throat & Ass - Do you like your men hot, hung, handsome, & hairy? Totally top, 6'2", 36yo, 185#, wants totally insatiable bottom. You should be masculine, in shape, under 45yo, and able to handle hours of serious action. EXT 2423.

Married BiWM - Seeking small endowed top day time lessons. Me: 5'6", 135#, 50. You: discreet, respect limits, use your place. EXT 2441.

Asian Ass Wanted - Well hung GWM wants cute young Asian bottom for long slow rides. Turning you on turns me on. I'm cute 5'5", 42, HIV-NS. You are HIV- and horny. EXT 2535.

Toys Dirty Talk - BM mutual ass play, safe toys, videos, role playing. Your butt or mines your place. EXT 2446.

Rubber/Leather - GWM, 40 (looks 29), blonde, 5'6", 140, bottom, seeks creative/dominant top into rubber & leather, like combination of both, into hoods breath control, not into heavy pain, HIV+, Ebay or SF. EXT 2442.

Tough Enough? - You're lean, young, muscular, hard-bodied, attractive, fit, GWM, 5'9", 155#, will wrestle you to the ground and thoroughly work you over, optionally punishing your hard ass. Safe, sane, limits respected. EXT 2443.

Dildoos - GBM, stock, handsome, hung, seeks big stocky, fat men who enjoy long dildo play. EXT 2444.

Muscleman Bottom - 39, 5'9", 180#, seeks hung, well-built, butch tops for sex. EXT 2524.

E. Palo Alto GAM - 35yo, 5'11", 205, likes giving guys under 45 free head. Lay back, enjoy my mouth watering blow job. Have lips will travel from Foster City to Sunnyvale areas only. EXT 2628.

Body Builders - You can pose for this gdlng 25yo, br/bl, 5'11", 170#, Italian, clean cut, all-American looking and fun. EXT 2525.

Scared - Versatile bottom, HIV+ seeks erotic bonding w/ men who enjoy the tall lean muscular w/ exotic body art. Photographers welcome. EXT 2526.

Hot Muscular GWM, 37 - Seeks a smooth hairless Asian to date, poss LTR. Not into bars. Pls be stable honest sincere. No games or fakes. EXT 2527.

Double Adventure - In shape WM, 5'11", hung big, needs well built WM, hairy legs and big hairy bubble butt to eat and fuck. EXT 2531.

GWM, 47, 5'9" - 145#, HIV+, retired, financially secure, looking for travel companion HIV+ also financially secure, you GWM, 40-60. EXT 2533.

Two Heads are Better Than One - Unparalleled oral service for adventurous, average to muscular men, 18-45. Two GWM experts are available and eager to drain you. We are both fit, clean and sane and enjoy oral encounters. EXT 2440.

GWM Ebay Kink - 50s 5'11", 170#, needs 3-ways, couples, groups, SM, CBT, FF, toys, smoke, drink. EXT 2530.

Free Quality Massage - For well-built young men who take good care of themselves. I'm 6'2", 175#, well-built, gdlng, masculine. Come stretch out on my table for a safe pleasurable experience. Sincere only. EXT 2621.

Strikingly Handsome Devil - GWM, 25, 5'11", 175#, athletic, cultured & fun loving seeks "Big boys," 25-35 who are cute, hot, and a lot of fun for dates and stuff. EXT 2429.

East Bay GWM - Seeking top fuck buddy 44yo, 6', 160#, br/bl, HIV-. Like porn, uncult, a plus, any race. EXT 2622.

Latino Uncut Top Wanted - Oakland area by bottom WM 5'11", HIV-. My car one evening in secluded area for test? 2623.

Black on blonde - Black East Bay top man, 40, experienced and hung big, seeks masculine, husky, blonde bottoms for brief but intense sessions at my place. Home phone # required. Experienced, sincere, blonde bottoms only. Discretion guaranteed. EXT 2624.

East Bay Bearded Bear GW CPL - Gdlng, 5'11", both hairy, husky (225/235), HIV-, Looking for one or more masc men for safe sex. Age, race, looks, size unimp. Prefer versatile (more top than bottom), hairy, real men with healthy sexual appetite. Come spend the night or weekend with us. Give us a call. EXT 2625.

Hairy Ass Arab - Good looking Arab is looking for FF top to train and stretch his great ass. Only experienced men. EXT 2422.

Have Boyfriend Want Sex - Wanted: Tall older white male top who enjoys being serviced orally: Maybe twice a week, I have place, suits a turn on! Day time best, looking for something steady - no string attached. Me: 5'8", 150#, 8", 36, WM, br/bl. EXT 2627.

Daytime Sex Buddy - Hot GLM 38, 5'10", 160#, hairy muscular bod w/ 7" uncut thick, HIV-, seeks gdlng guys 18-40, in shape, for safe weekend encounters. Bl/bl, SF only, R U horny days? Lets meet. EXT 2638.

Healthy HIV+ - Seeking dominant WM top 25-35yo for kinky sex and more. Me: LM, 24, 5'5", w/ piercings and shaved head & nuts. EXT 2639.

Seeking Ongoing Fuck Buddy - Ebay mid 50's wants to connect w/ a guy that wants to play. Prefer ongoing. I'm in good shape 5'8", 165#. Not looking for relationship but if you're in one, or married and need a buddy for play, call. Uncut A+. EXT 2640.

Walnut Creek - Aussie 32, 6', 180 strablonde hazel wants hot sweat sex evenings. Let me feel your cock in my mouth and up my ass. EXT 2641.

3 Athletic Legs - One for 69 position CS. EXT 2532.

Asian Tennis Player - Wanted for daytime play during the weekdays, by 39yo, 5'10", 170#, w/ a gym toned body. EXT 2642.

SEEKING ADVENTURE

W-W

For Your Birthday - I'm going to blind fold you, tie you to a cross, fill your mouth w/ a big fat gag, fill your butt and cunt w/ electric plugs, pull on your nipple clamps, and run a vibrator up/down your body. Then again, maybe I won't wait! EXT 2537.

FETISHES

Seeking Huge Nipples - I'm hot muscular 37. I want a gdlng guy w/ freaky huge protruding nipples. Pls be sincere serious. EXT 2540.

Hot, Hairy Tight Latino Ass - Looking for black men tops who enjoys fucking hot Latino man ass. I am 42, slender & hot. I like a big fat dick at my man's hole. Give me a call. Let's enjoy it. EXT 2626.

Lingerie & Dildoos - Looking for an HIV+, BM who like lingerie and/or dildoos. I am HIV+, GWM, 49, trim beard. Let's play. 2539.

Versatile FF - Tops only, OK. Pitchin' 'n catchin' buddies A+, T&B. I'm into the joy, the bliss, the sensuality of it, deep & wide, tender to strong. WM, 59yo, fit 5'11", 165#, beard, tatts. EXT 2541.

Barefoot Buddy - Gdlng, masc., bearded Ebay GWM seeks other men into reciprocal licking, kissing, smelling, caressing our clean, moist barefeet. I'm HIV-, NA, ND & I like all over body play & indulging ourselves by mutual barefoot action/fantasy/ JO. I'm 5'9", 140#. East bay area preferred. EXT 2431.

East Bay Foot Stool Slave - Late 40's, HIV-, cut, attr. man will crawl to sexy footed masters & do your sexual bidding. Ebay masters from 38 to 60 preferred. I'll worship you nicely, serious, will ans all! EXT 2435.

Erotic Spankings - Handsome big brother, 38, wants to spank bad boys (18-25). JO, dildo play, humiliation games are possible. Curious first-timers welcome; you needn't be gorgeous, though prefer smooth. Tell me your spanking fantasy! (San Jose or San Francisco.) EXT 2430.

The Hottest Guy in Town - Even the hottest guy in town is not worth you risking your health over. Play safe! Protect yourself & those you play with. Always wear a condom when having anal sex, & don't exchange bodily fluids. If you're HIV+, don't panic, get early treatment, talk to someone that can help, & still play safe. EXT SAFE.

Hungry Toilet Fuck Boy - Needs regular use from redneck straight dirty dudes. Piss, shit, snort, verbal abuse, humiliation needed. Real hungry. EXT 2432.

Pants Down JO Buddies - Goodlooking, GWM, 40's, sees men 30's or older into pulling down their pants (jeans w/ belts) showing hand on/in jockeys/boxers, shooting their load w/ their pants & shorts pulled down. Men in suits, slacks or uniforms welcome also. EXT 2629.

Sexy, Slender, Pretty, TV - Looking for other that share my fetish of fantasy fashions, leather, latex, girdles, stockings, high heels, and B & D. I'm a switch and open to safe conventional play. EXT 2536.

Handsome Daddy 44, Smoker - Needs full-time boy to span, paddle, whip, piss on, squeeze balls and tits, service me, hug, kiss and cuddle. Relationship oriented under 40 preferred. EXT 2538.

Have 900 Block - Black stud 1498, 2144, ex-football jock 1576. Give a call would love to service you. EXT 2433.

Guy Packing Seven Plus - Wanted experienced early forties dad to get you off all the way, I can take it. HIV- hairy, husky blonde, bear, has videos to please gay bi-curious, straight, first timers, come one, come all. EXT 2546.

Uniforms, Boots, Western Wear - Seek Goodlooking hunk into same. I like to lick & polish boots & have you rub the seat of your pants in my face. Will supply clothing if necessary. EXT 2630.

Codpiece Heaven - Full-leather man seeks well-built buddy, who celebrates his maleness up front. I'm GWM, 42, well-built, slender, goodlooking, versatile, 5'10", 155#, NS, ND. EXT 2631.

Pervert Dad seeks Pervert Oral Son - For total service, Kink & fantasy A++. Me: 45, masc. hairy chest, 6'4", 240#. You: Under 35, smooth, in shape. Poss relat. EXT 2632.

COUPLES

Gdlng, GWCP in East Contra Costa - Top: 50, 6'3", 215#, dark beard/hair, HIV-. Bottom: 40, 235#, 5'10", dark beard/hair, HIV-seeks, 3rd man to share our bed and lives. Please be mature, masculine, versatile (more top than bottom.) mobile, HIV-, and ready to play safe. Age, race, size, looks unimportant. Be honest & sincere. EXT 2436.

HIV+, GWM, CPL - Seeks 3rd for long term relationship. We currently reside in SW Florida. Relocation poss. We are 28 & 40yo. Attractive, masculine, down to earth, and versatile. EXT 2542.

OTHER

Asian Travel Companion - Gay or Bi Asian who wants to travel with a Bi-white male, 28. Planning a trip to SE Asian in late May. Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia. You: young, Asian, interesting, able to share expenses. Me: been there before. Know where all the clubs, shows and hang outs are, but don't like to travel alone. EXT 2633.

I am Looking For a Chinese - Guy to practice my Mandarin with. If you would be willing to spend 1-2 hours per week. Please ring. EXT 2634.

Still only 98¢ per minute to respond to ads!

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this week

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Send calendar listings to:

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Deadline is the Thursday
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F 14

Adventures in Clintonland

Syndicated columnist Norman Solomon in solo performance. Thurs.-Sat. thru 4/29. \$8-12. 8:30pm. The Marsh, 1062 Valencia. 826-5750.

Banjo

One man solo minstrel extravaganza by Bob Davis. Thurs.-Sat. thru 4/15. \$10-12. 8pm. Climate Theatre, 252 9th St. 626-5196.

Betwixt 16 & 24

Live slide show with music and remembrances by Steve Vegas, a vision of the Mission. Free. 8pm. Collision Gallery, 417 14th St. 431-4074.

Camille

Theater of the Ridiculous founder Charles Ludlam's parody veers between high and low culture, directed by David Hawkins. Extended: Fri. & Sat. thru 4/22. \$12-18. 8pm. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. 861-5079.

Cultural Practice/ Cultural Resistance

Jasmine, Praylo & Dale play the Owl & Monkey,
SEE FRI

Two evenings of performance and video work by community leaders of queer underground performance projects. Fri. & Sat. \$7-10. 8pm. Build, 483 Guerrero. 863-3041, ext. 1

Fear of Disclosure Project

Karl Knapper introduces videos targeted to the AIDS community, including Marlon Riggs' "No Regret." Free, part of "Out, Loud & Proud" health series. 6:30pm. 145 Dwinelle Hall, UC Berkeley. 510-642-0298.

The Gong Show

Nefertiti Jones presents an evening of unnatural acts. Fridays thru 4/21. \$10. 10pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Inspiracy

Eight-member lesbian and gay vocal ensemble. \$5. 8:30pm. Jon Sims Center for the Performing Arts, 1519 Mission St. 554-0402.

Jasmine's World

Jasmine, Praylo & Dale play acoustic sets. \$2-5. 9pm. The Owl & Monkey Cafe, 1336 9th Ave.

Lo-Cal

Delicious art without all the fat, curated by Marisa Hernandez Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm thru 4/15. Southern Exposure, 401 Alabama. 863-2141.

Toni Morrison

Nobel Prize winner for literature gives reading/lecture, introduced by A.S. Byatt. \$15. 8pm. Masonic Auditorium, Nob Hill. 392-4400.

Once In A Blue Moon

Revue of rarely heard musical theatre songs from the '20s-'40s. Thurs.-Sun. at various times thru 4/15. \$15. 8pm. New Conservatory

Theatre, 25 Van Ness Ave. 861-8972.

Gary Palmer Dance Co.

Choreography by Gary Palmer, music by Marc Ream. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm. \$18-22. Mountain View Center for the Arts, Mercy & Castro Sts., Mountain View. 903-6000.

Prime Time With Joan Jett Blakk

Live, drag-enriched talk show, co-hosted by Babette. Wed.-Sun. thru 4/23. \$10. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

The Sacred Naked Nature Girls

All-women's performance collective: theater, poetry and improv, in the nude. Tonight: for women only. Sat. & Sun.: all genders. \$10. 8pm. Luna Sea, 2940 16th St., #216C. 863-2989.

Spike and Mike's Festival of Animation

Animated artistry, including Oscar winner "Bob's Birthday." Weekends thru April, call for times. \$7. Tonight at 9:30pm. Palace of Fine Arts, Bay & Lyon. 567-6642.

Spit Out Your Gun...

"It's School Policy," a comedy? about teaching by Miriam Engelberg and Gayle Schmitt. Fri.-Sat. at 8pm thru 4/29, Sun. at 2pm 4/23 & 30. \$9. 8pm. Asian American Theatre, Second Stage, 403 Arguello. 922-6841.

St. John's Passion

Bach's chorale, performed by St. Luke's Oratorio Choir and Orchestra of Period Instruments. \$10-15. 8pm. St. Luke's Church, Van Ness at Clay. 673-7327.



Sandow Birk's
"Arts of the
Suburbs:
Philosophy," at
Morphos Gallery,
SEE TUES

The Stepford Wives

The Sick and Twisted Players' interpretation. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm thru 4/29. \$12-15. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness Ave. 861-8972.

This Is Where It Comes From

Solo physical theater performance by Sten Rudstrom. Thru Sun. \$10. 8pm. New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St. 863-9834.

Trespass Knot

Eureka Theatre and the Paul Dresher Ensemble present AGaPe Performance Group's operatic parable. Thurs.-Sat. thru 4/15. \$14. 8:30pm. Somar Gallery Theatre, 934 Brannan. 552-1770.

X-posé

Local legend Miss X sings, accompanied by Birdie Bob Watt. Fridays thru April. \$8. 10:30pm. Eichelberger's, 2742 17th St. 863-4177.

SA 15

America's Most Wanted

Re-enactment of the Victor Rohana shooting at Market & Waller. 9pm. KTVU (FOX), Channel 2.

Cathode Raider

Short video collages of appropriated TV material. \$5. 8:30pm. ATA Gallery, 992 Valencia. 824-3890.

Gay Comedy Night

Tom Ammiano, Charlene Tapia, Amy Boyd. \$10. 10pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Life & Love

Images by Mark Hannon from his series "Life, Love & Sex In SF," thru 6/1. Alta Plaza Bar & Grill, 2301 Fillmore. 922-1444.

Pirates of Penzance

Lamplighters' production of Gilbert & Sullivan's classic operetta. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm thru 4/30. \$23. Presentation Campus Theatre, 2350 Turk. 227-0331.

Rocky Horror Superstar

"The Jesus of Frankenfurter Story," a Playstitle production with "With No Anchovies." Fri. & Sat. thru 4/29. \$12. 8pm. Third Wave Dance House, 3316 24th St. 331-1583 ext. 1313.

SU 16

Country Sundays

Women's Country-Western dancing. \$5-10. Class 6:30pm, dance 7:30pm. No smoke, alcohol, scent or boots. Finnish Hall, 1970 Chestnut, Berkeley. (510) 428-2144.

A Foot in the Door

Work by women artists exploring issues of immigration, with "A Postcolonial Kinderhook," an installation by Elaine Reichek. Sun.-

Thurs. thru 4/30. \$3. The Jewish Museum, 121 Stuart St. 543-2090.

GAWK

Gay Artists and Writers Collective weekly meetings Sun., 2:30pm. Info: Jon Sugar at 731-2424.

VulvArt Show

Joani Blank and Shar Rednour curate art show filled with pussy. Sundays thru 4/23. 1-5pm. 848 Divisadero. 885-6335.

M 17

Aerial Photographs

Exhibition of prints by aerial photography pioneer William Garnett. Mon.-Sat. 9am-6pm thru 5/13. Vision Gallery, 1155 Mission. 621-2107.

Burning Point

Series of photographs by Clara Bedingfield. Thru April. Mad Magda's Russian Tea Room, 579 Hayes. 864-7654.

Gay and Lesbian Artists Alliance

Exhibition by Richard Bolingbroke, Gary Borgstedt and others. Thru 4/22. Eichelberger's, 2742 17th St. 863-4177.

Gay Comedy Open Mike

M.C. Mimi-Freed. Aspiring queer comics sign up by phone. \$5. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Improbable Playwrights

"Famous People, Not-So-Famous Plays" by Isadora Alman, Alice Waters, others. Dinner buffet, benefit for Magic Theatre. \$75. 6:30pm. Cowell Theatre, Fort Mason. 441-8822.

JB Higgins

Color photographs exhibit thru 5/10 at the Castro Station, 456 B Castro.

Planet Drag

Supermodel Jade in a new solo performance project. 8:30pm. Jon Sims Center for the Performing Arts, 1519 Mission. 554-0402.

Western

Square Dance clubs

Star dancers club for lesbian/gay community starts Basic Square Dance class, first two classes free. 7:30pm. Eureka Valley Rec Center, Collingwood at 18th St. 621-6506.

TU 18

Art of the Other Mexico

"Sources and Meanings," paintings and sculpture by artists of Mexican descent. Tues.-Sun. thru 5/14. \$4. Center for the Arts, 701 Mission St. 978-ARTS.

Bacchus' Vessels

Artists create wine vessels in metal, glass and ceramics. Tues.-Sun. 11am-5pm thru 5/29. \$1. SF Craft & Folk Art Museum, Bldg. A, Fort Mason. 775-0990.

Sandow Birk, Scott Siedman

Birk's "Tales of the Cities" and Siedman's "Triumph of Man Over Nature," painting exhibitions at Morphos Gallery's new location. Tues.-Sat. thru 5/1. 49 Geary. 626-1936.

Britney Gives Lips

Lip-synching drag diva Britney's SF solo debut. \$10. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Monet

"Late Paintings of Giverny," Tues.-Sun., 10am-4:45pm,



Wed. until 8:45pm thru 5/29.
\$8.50. deYoung Memorial
Museum, Golden Gate Park.
863-3330.

A Moon for the Misbegotten

Berkeley Repertory Theatre
presents Eugene O'Neill's
classic. Tues.-Sun. thru 5/19,
call for times. \$28-34. 2025
Addison St., Berkeley.
(510) 845-4700.

Nicholas Nixon

Portraits spanning two
decades. Tues.-Sat. thru
4/29. Fraenkel Gallery, 49
Geary. 981-2661.

Volume I

Book Arts by Native American
Artists. Tues.-Sat. 10am-
5:30pm thru 7/1. American
Indian Contemporary Arts,
685 Market St., Suite 250.
495-7600.

W 19

Barbary Coast Boating Club

Gay & lesbian boaters, dinner
mtg. \$15. 7:30pm. Berkeley
Yacht Club, 1 Seawall Dr.
905-6267.

Sarah Bernhardt

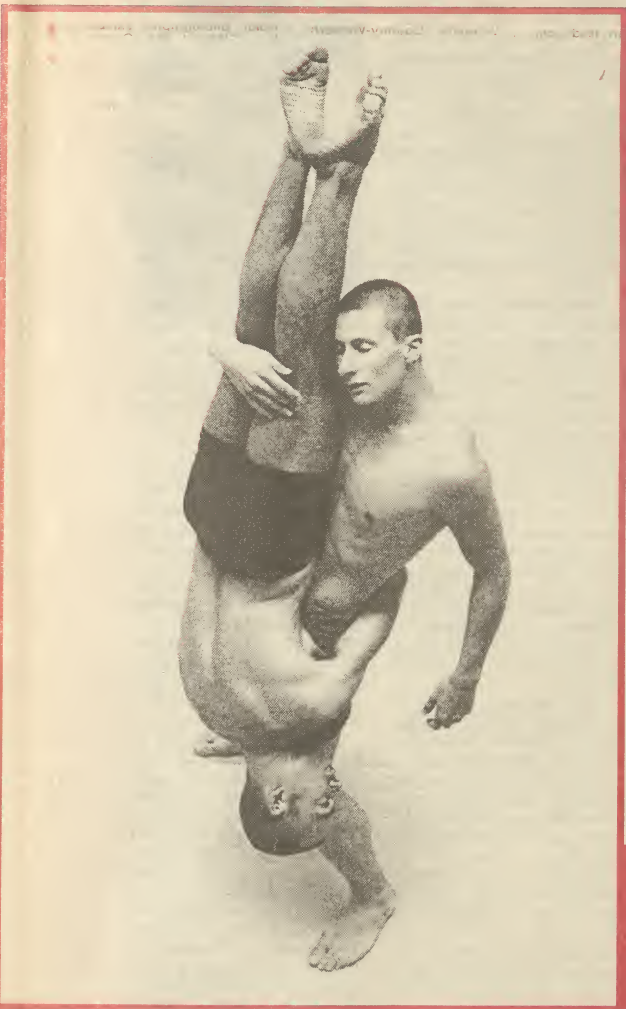
"Artist and Icon," exhibit of
photos, paintings, posters,
memorabilia of the great
actress. Thru 6/24. SF
Performing Arts Library &
Museum, 399 Grove.
255-4800.

Brother, Can You Spare Some Time

Site-specific film installation
by Ernie Gehr, 1995 Adaline
Kent Award exhibition. Tues.-
Sun. thru 4/30.
Walter/McBean Gallery, SFAI,
800 Chestnut. 771-7020.

Fruit Punch

Gay men's radio program,
every Wed. 7pm. KPFA, 94
FM.



Ted Curtis Mahshi is
Jesus of Frankfurter
in Playstute's Rocky
Horror Superstar,
SEE SAT

Gay Skate

Rink full of queers on roller-
skates. \$5 includes skates
rental. 8-10:30pm. Rolladium
Roller Rink, 363 North
Amphlett, San Mateo. Info:
96-SKATE.

Idiot Variations

Paul Dresher Ensemble pre-
sents Rinde Eckert's musical
theater piece. Opens tonight,
runs Thurs.-Sat. thru 4/29.
\$10-12. 8pm. SOMAR
Theater, 934 Brannan. (510)
843-4011.

Inscrutable Objects

"Image and Icon in Recent
Photography." \$4. Tues.-
Sun., 11am-5pm thru 5/7.
Ansel Adams Center for
Photography, 250 4th St.
495-7000.

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prose share their work, free.
7:30pm. Modern Times
Bookstore, 888 Valencia.
282-9246.

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lege freshmen reproduce
parts of their bedrooms. With
"Impositions" and "Moments."
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Center Art Gallery, SFSU,
1650 Holloway. 338-2580.

Raymond Saunders:

Black Paintings

Themes from African-
American life in the work of a
pre-eminent Bay Area painter.
Wed.-Sun., 10am-4:45pm
thru 4/30. \$5. deYoung
Museum, Golden Gate Park.
863-3330.



Sol y Luna

Concert by SF Latin music
group, free. 1pm. Diego
Rivera Theatre, CCSF, 50
Phelan Ave. 239-3580.

The Sirens

Darrah Cloud's play about
women who kill their abusive
husbands. Wed.-Sun. thru
4/23. \$17-23. Magic Theatre,
Bldg. D, Fort Mason.
441-8822.

TH 20

Stephen Beachy, Thomas Avena

Novelist Beachy and
poet/editor Avena read from
their works, free. 1:30pm. The
Poetry Center - Reading
Room, Hum. 512, SFSU,
1600 Holloway Ave.
338-2227.

Bike Messenger Fashion Show

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Bike-A-Thon. 12 Noon. Justin
Herman Plaza.

The Bindlestiff Series

Three performances:
Matthew Morin's "Kielbasa:
Queen of Poland," Gregory
O'Neill's "I'm Every Go-Go,"
Margery Kraitman's "Mug
Shots." \$7-10. 8pm.
Bindlestiff Studio, 185 6th St.
974-1167.

Bingo

Gay bingo benefits Coming
Home Hospice, every Thurs.
\$12. 6pm. Most Holy
Redeemer Church, 100
Diamond St. 241-0425.

Dance Envisions the Cure

Choreographers Yannis
Adoniou, Philip Jones, Tomi
Paasonen, Scott Wells.
Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at
2pm. \$16 advance, \$18 door.
Cowell Theatre, Fort Mason
Center. 392-4400.

Fruit Night

Fresh-squeezed screw-
drivers, \$2. 8:30pm. The Lion
Pub, 2062 Divisadero.
567-6565.

Dances by
Yannis Adoniou (I)
and Tomi Paasonen
(r) in *Dance
Envisions the Cure II*,
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marsala wine, over fettucini.....8.75

Penne Pasta with Chicken & Rock
Shrimp, light tomato-basil Alfredo
sauce.....9.75

Home-Baked Swiss Steak
with mushrooms & burgundy wine
gravy, rice or mashed potatoes.....8.95

Prime Rib au jus with baked potato
& creamy horseradish.....12.50

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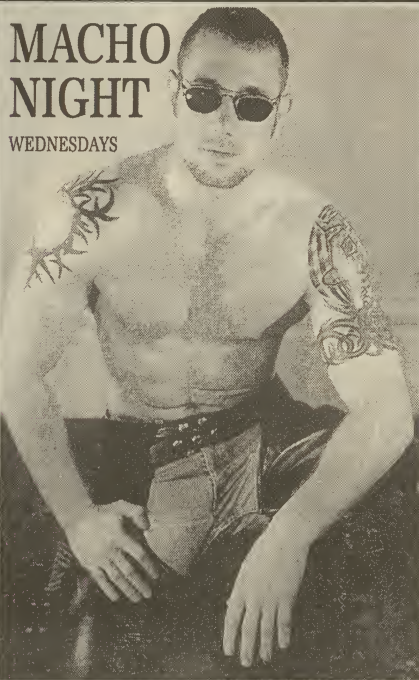


Photo: Kent Taylor

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MR. MARCUS



Photo: Vern Stewart

Mr. New York Leather winners, chosen Saturday, April 1 at The Tunnel in New York (L. to R.): second runner-up Joe Gallagher, Mr. NY Leather '95 Andy Borden, and first runner-up David Mitchell, all of New York City.

Travel Time For Leather People

In just 43 days, the weekend of May 25-29 (Memorial Day weekend), leather people from around the world will converge in Chicago for the 16th annual International Mr. Leather contest.

The wise have already booked their flights, hotel rooms, and paid the \$125 weekend package fee, which entitles them to all the official events and parties as well as a reserved seat at the contest. Charge your weekend package to your VISA, Mastercard or American Express card by calling (800) 545-6753. Orders for more than one person will be held under one name only.

Air travel is another story. Some airlines are charging as much as \$651 round-trip, but the ever-vigilant and ever-savvy travel agencies in San Francisco will not hear of it.

A complete package deal (including airfare, hotel, and contest tickets) is available from Orion Travel (563 Castro), and if

you'd rather not deal with three separate agencies for the weekend this is a wise move. Details of the \$286 round trip airfare deal is shown below. Remember, this is Memorial Day weekend, so travel will be heavy.

Leave from SFO on Thursday or Friday, May 25 or 26, landing at Midway Airport near downtown Chicago and the host hotel, the Hyatt Regency (151 E. Wacker Drive). At \$90 per night, rooms are going fast. Reserve by calling (800) 233-1234. The hotel also hosting the gay square dancing convention, so act fast.

Return Monday, May 29th, for the \$286 round trip airfare on American Transport. Any variations will cost you an additional \$25. This fare is also available from Passport to Leisure (2265 Market St.). But remember, spaces are limited.

My Exclusive Scoop this week: At last! (It was inevitable) there's an international guidebook out called *The Black Pages: International*. The book, published by Blackline Press of Berlin (Germany), exclusively lists all the gay leather/SM venues around the world. It's a definitive guide "for those who prefer the less mundane things in life!" It's in English & German.

With 344 pages of information about bars, baths, and gay leathery venues interspersed with short stories, fantastic photography and ads, this premiere edition of *Black Pages* is your guide for leather, rubber, uniforms, gay skinheads and bootboys.

For \$12.95 this is a terrific companion to the Damron Address Book. I don't know if any of the local bookstores/leather shops have it yet, but if they don't, demand it, or you can contact Blackline Press direct.

The Black Pages will be

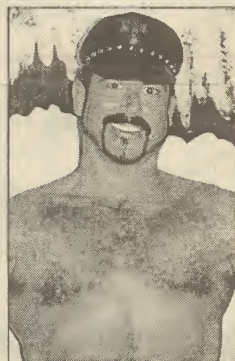


Photo: Mr. Marcus

Gary Lindstrum of Aptos won the July spot on the 1996 Bare Chest Calendar last Thursday, April 6, at the Eagle.

updated every year in September with listings "from Amsterdam to Athens and Copenhagen to Caracas." There's a year-long personal diary in the back. Write to Blackline Press & Services, Postfach 150230, D-10664 Berlin, Germany. Phone: 011-49-30-881-5545. Fax: 011-49-30-883-4114. This guide is a "must" if you're into the leather scene. Remember: you read it here first.

Ticket sales for the Mr. SF Leather Contest on Saturday, April 22, are going quickly. With VIPs and title-holders from other cities and local sponsors scheduled to attend, most of the reserved tables are almost gone. Tickets are \$15 for general admission and \$20 for reserved seats. Admission at the door is \$25. You can charge ticket(s) to your VISA, Mastercard or AMEX card by calling (415) 974-6020. Or you can get tickets in person at both Mister S Leather locations and at



Photo: Mr. Marcus

"Shadow," of Oklahoma City, is the first Ms. Gulf Coast Leather and will compete for the Intl. Ms. Leather title in Chicago in July.



Photo: Mr. Marcus

Intl. Mr. Mark Frazier (L.) shown with his new domestic partner, Intl. Mr. Drummer Keith Hunt. The domestic partners live in Dallas. Any bids on the "pick of the litter"?

Mercury Mail Order (aka the Dildo Mines), 4084 - 18th St. A full liquor bar will be available as well as a leather vending area.

Meet and greet the contestants and judges, as well as some of the VIPs, at a beerbust on Friday night at 2000, April 21 at the Eagle. The judges for this year's contest will be announced in this column in the April 20 edition of B.A.R.

The deadline for contestant entry forms is April 15. Forms are available by calling (415) 864-3220. Remember, you must be 21 and a resident of San Francisco, San Mateo, Marin, Contra Costa or Alameda counties for at least one (1) year. There is a \$25 entry fee.

Mr. July on the 1996 Bare Chest Calendar was chosen at the Eagle last Thursday, April 6th. Judges Don Thompson, Richard Faust and Mr. Jackhammer Leather Tommy Reaves jousting with a whopping

eight contestants through shenanigans and anecdotes but eventually came up with a winner. Mr. July on the 1996 calendar is Gary Lindstrum of Aptos and the runner-up was Jim "Spike" Hamilton. Fun night.

Last Saturday, April 8, the Knights of Malta MC/Cable Car Chapter, celebrated their third anniversary with a soiree on the patio of the SF-Eagle. The new officers were introduced and certain individuals were given certificates for their support of the club.

Kudos to the performers who showed up for Diamond Follies II at the Russian Center on Saturday night. Too bad some of them didn't bother to show up at all. Best to leave all the bad comments unreported, but thanks Alan Selby for your untiring efforts.

Corrections: Last week's report on the Mr. NY Leather Contest erroneously stated that

former Mr. NY Leather Justin Charbonneau received the Henry Romanowski Community Achievement Award when, in fact, Justin presented that award to Wally Wallace, who has long been the reigning leather dude in NY, what with his endless community involvements and strong affiliations with both the fabled Mine Shaft and The Lure. Well-deserved indeed!

The second faux pas: the photo of Mr. Edge Leather "L.J." was incorrectly credited. It should have read: "PHOTO: TIM WONG." Sorry about both errors.

Lullabies of Dishland

It's official! International Mr. Drummer Keith Hunt has moved kit and kaboodle from Denver to Dallas and now resides with former Mr. NLA International, Mark Frazier. Mark's Dallas Eagle finally opened last Friday night, April 7, and the place was deluged with leather people throughout the weekend. It's located in what used to be the Ripcord (2515 Inwood Road, Suite 107, rear entry) - in a shopping center.

The Golden Gate Guards MC have canceled all their beerbusts at Night Shift on Castro and rescheduled in the South of Market area. The April beerbust has been canceled. Stay tuned.

Memo to Roland Bynum of Portland, OR: For your guidance and information, Dustin Logan of Omaha will, repeat, will produce the Great Plains Drummer contest in Omaha the weekend of June 9-10; Mr. Logan stated that any rumors to the contrary are just that - rumors. ▼

Eventures in Leather

Weekend, April 14-15

Mr. San Diego Leather '95 contest is Saturday night, April 15, at Travelodge at the Zoo, after a meet and greet (the contestants and judges) on Friday night, April 14, at the San Diego Eagle. The contest is followed by a victory celebration at Wolf's. Photos next week.

Saturday, April 15

Mr. SF Drummer Keith Shaw's benefit at the Eagle from 2000 to 2300, with a beer bust, entertainment, auction, raffle and cruisin' for \$8.

Bears of San Francisco beer bust at the Lone Star Saloon, 1500-1900. No other details furnished.

Tuesday, April 18

The SF-Eagle's 14th anniversary party is on for two nights this year. They'll be giving out their anniversary pins and T-shirts tonight. Action begins at 2000, so get there early if you want any of these items.

Wednesday, April 19

Second night of the Eagle's annual anniversary party, with a buffet beginning at 2000 plus entertainment. Come on down and help everyone's favorite bar embark on their 15th year in business!

Leather Buddies play party at 933 Harrison. Doors open from 2030 to 2330. Boots mandatory. No cologne. The sniff hounds are on duty. Call (415) 979-0242 for more info.

Friday, April 21

Reception/beer bust at the SF-Eagle, 2000-2300, for Mr. SF Leather contestants, judges, out-of-town and local dignitaries, and title holders.

Blow Buddies play party at 933 Harrison. No details furnished.

Saturday, April 22

Mr. San Francisco Leather '95 contest at the Russian Center. Doors open 1900; contest at 2000. Tix (\$15 and \$20 or \$25 at the door) are available at both Mr. S locations and Mercury Mail Order (4084 18th St.). Guest star Cynthia Manley performs, with Charles Seltz and the Men of the 1995 Bare Chest Calendar, Kim Wallace and Mimi=Freed. Also, the Phoenix UC will perform "It's Reigning Men." Victory party follows at the bar of the winner's choice.

The Ring's discussion today is that old favorite: "Fundamentals of Crotch Shaving." From 1300 to 1500. Call 522-9697 to reserve your \$10 space.

The 15 Association's monthly party. Call (415) 673-0452 for invite.

Sunday, April 23

The Golden State Gay Rodeo Association/Bay Area hosts the beer bust at the Eagle this afternoon, 1500-1800. Food and entertainment for \$8, plus a special drawing for a European trip and a 50/50 raffle. ▼



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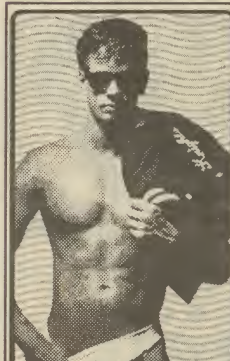
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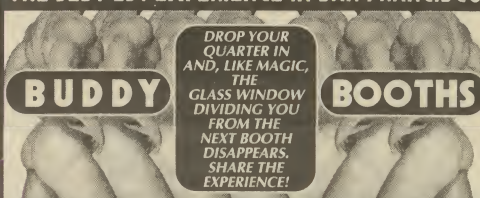
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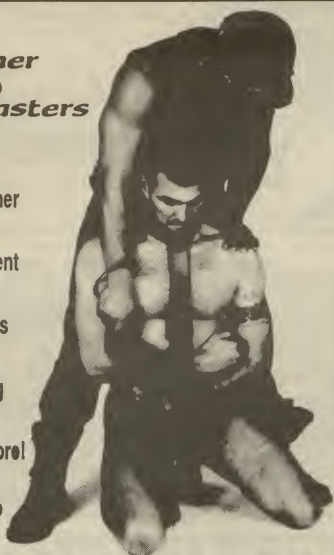
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Writers Wanted

Arts Editor seeks writers for the Bay Area Reporter's arts and entertainment section. If you're interested in writing about people, arts and culture and have a proven track record as a writer, please send a cover letter and published clips (no more than three please) to: Arts Editor, Bay Area Reporter, 395 9th Street, San Francisco, CA 94103.

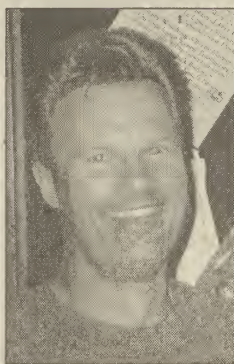
SWEET LIPS

Celebrate Earth Day 25 at Kimo's

A fabulous birthday party was held in honor of the one and only Helen Trent (aka Robbie Robinson) recently. She was celebrating her 60th at the Cinch Saloon. We all enjoyed a great buffet provided by Dennis Tyler. How did you like the stripper that Mario and Richard got for you, Helen? A little too much mousse, eh?

Remember, Saturday, April 22, from 12 p.m. till 4 p.m., locals will celebrate the 25th anniversary of Earth Day, a fundraiser for the Godfather Fund. Join Craig "Earth Mother" Rody for a fun afternoon that will include a \$1 raffle, with great prizes: auto-graphed pictures of Joe Montana, Jerry Rice, and Sweet Lips, \$100 in cash, and other prizes.

This is Craig's first party in several years. He wants to raise as much money as he can. Also he'd like to do an old-fashioned potluck. Bring your favorite covered dish. We will be asking



Craig "Earth Mother" Rody

for a donation for the food, which will benefit the charity. All the fun will happen at Kimo's. You know where it is.

Earth Day, of course, refers to April 22, 1970, the first Earth Day, when people were asked to join together in a crusade to save

our planet from environmental destruction. Let's keep the tradition going!

Ticket information for the Closet Ball can be had by calling 864-0673. This year it's going to be on Saturday, May 6. I hear that a former Emperor is going to be a contestant as well as two bartenders from Polk Street. (Rumor has it that leather maven Mr. Marcus and Ashtray David will be coming together.)

Stephanie Miller has joined the staff of the New Kimo's. She works Sunday through Tuesday mornings, 8 till 1 a.m. She's really sweet. Drop in and have a drink with her. Of course, yours truly will be on the plank the rest of the mornings, and, as you know, I'm not nearly as sweet.

Frank Dunbar celebrates a birthday on the 15th. On the 20th, Michael Greer remembers his special day, and on the 21st it's Art York's birthday. Hoist one (or five) for these guys in honor of another year. Hope to see y'all at Kimo's. ▼

PORN

Beware The Rim

by Rod Cazzo

On a rainy night when you're just aching to get off, there's nothing like a good porn flick. But good porn is hard to find. You do your best to sort out the trash, but sometimes you still wind up popping that tape back into its carton with a "ripped off again" grimace on your face.

Below The Rim, from Palomino films, offers great promise. The picture on the tape's carton shows two men in a cave with dicks pressing nicely against their classic Calvin Kleins. This, I thought, would do nicely because my face and their dicks under cotton would make a fine threesome.

After a truly awful opening song (Johnny Cash in his disco years), the film begins. Two men step out of a truck and immediately go at each other in a crazed frenzy. It looks like lust, or like they drank too many espressos while waiting for the film crew to get the lighting right. A lot of rimming and some savage mouth-fucking ensues. The top man spends the entire time spewing pathetic dirty talk, but, like all good bottoms, the cocksucker just ignores him and chows down on his meaty dick and pretty asshole. My porn partner and I were both impressed by the bottom's agility. Balanced on the edge of the truck's tailgate and curled nearly in half, this guy could probably have sucked himself off for a less annoying orgasm.

A half hard-on goes to the bottom, who then gets fucked (making some very sweet noises), but it could have been a truly rigid dick if the top man would have just shut up. (Dianne Wiest, from Woody Allen's *Bullets Over Broadway*, could have helped here: "Don't speak, don't speak ... please don't speak.")

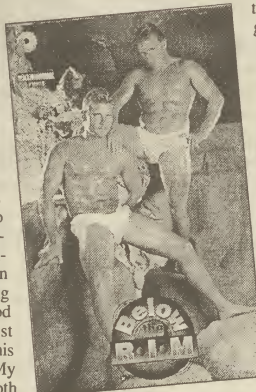
My porn partner was tired out by the frenetic top in the first scene, but the film did slow down to a more reasonable pace. Fuck Two involves the ubiquitous seduction-of-a-straight man scene as Bo Summers analytically describes the benefits of homo fucking to Scott Russell (a "straight" man with a truly nelly "direct cocks here" mustache). While I usually desire more plot development in porn flicks, after this scene I remembered that the Gods punish sinners by granting them their wishes. New rule: don't include plot build-up if it sounds like the dialogue in this film.

Once you hit the mute button, the scene improves considerably. Bo has a butt that's truly worth separating from his body and enjoying alone. Scott, on the other hand, has magnificent, sparse blond hair over his tanned body that looks fantastic in the sun. While their suck/fuck is pleas-

ant, it ends with a real dribble. Throughout, I noticed that my porn partner was playing with the TV's color, hue, balance, and any other trick the remote would reveal to him, so I can't say that the scene was absolutely riveting.

Cowboy gear, douching

The film's remaining fucks include a threesome in a truck and a foursome around a hot tub. Of these scenes, Mark Andrews (though pale) demonstrates the most believable facial expressions when he's fucking Austin Michaels. (He has that fierce I-don't-care-if-this-is-bad-porn, I'm-getting-mine-while-this-kid-is-bent-over gleam in his eye.)



Matt Dietz is also worth seeing. While he's on camera less than anyone else in the film, he made me appreciate cowboy fashion for the first time. That is, if cowboys started to wear only a wide-brimmed hat, boots, and nothing in-between. Matt's big frame is luscious, a little plump, and worth some more concentrated camera time. Only his shaved ball sack and asshole — absolutely mandatory in porn — mar his looks. (Note: Use some lotion to heal that angry-looking razor burn!) Muscular and with some meat on him, he's a perfect contrast to Clint Benedict, who looks like he used his Ronco Food Drying Machine on himself. Just how does he manage to keep that massive chest vertical

over those stringy little legs?

The strangest aspect of *Below The Rim* is not that it rarely rises above standard porn fare, but that it includes outtakes during the film's final credits. Watch one of the film crew wipe down Scott Russell when he gets a little too lubricated. Enjoy the spectacle of the threesome balancing on top of the truck and nearly falling off. What, I thought, is going on? Even if this film had gotten me off, why in the world are they showing me outtakes?

If you're going to rent *Below The Rim*, expect to fast forward a lot, because this is a film to be enjoyed in parts, not as a whole. Some great dicks and butts (look better freeze-framed), and the bottoms really shine when they get fucked, or use their assholes anyway they can. In one scene, a bottom douches with a garden hose again and again — you've got to appreciate his relationship with his asshole. Otherwise, this is a forgettable porn flick that forces you to end up using your own imagination to get off. That is, if you can get the images from the film out of your head. ▼

Below The Rim, with Bo Summers, Scott Russell, York Powders, Matt Windsor, Clint Benedict, Mark Andrews, Matt Dietz, Austin Michaels, and Mark Angelo (Palomino Films).

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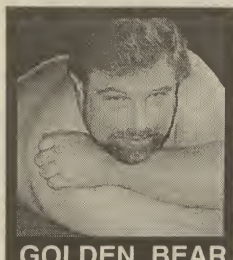
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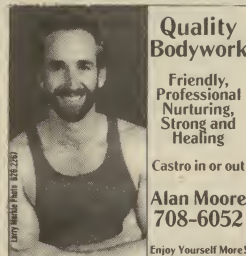
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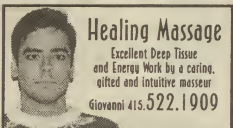


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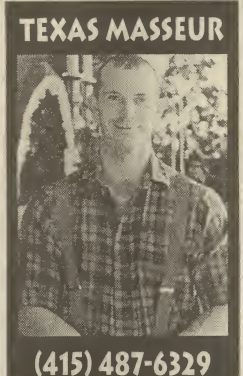
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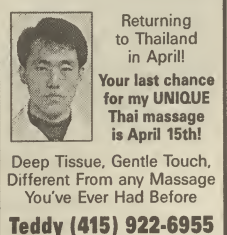
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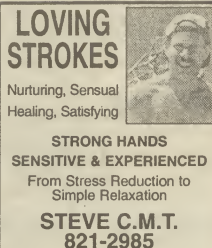
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has you cum down my th
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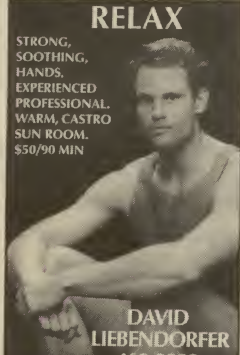
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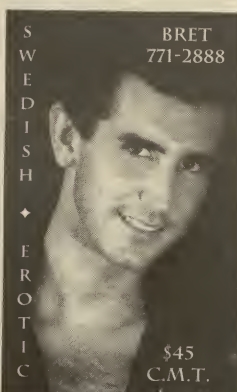
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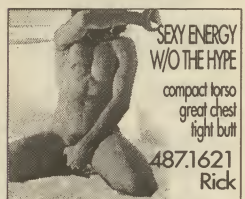

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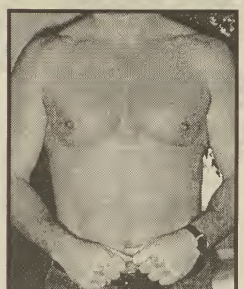
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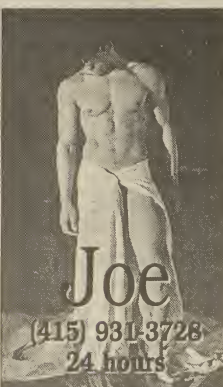


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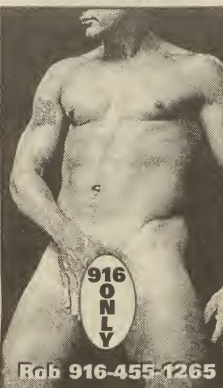


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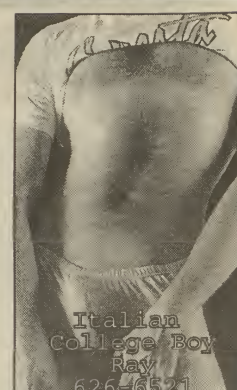


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Rob 916-455-1265

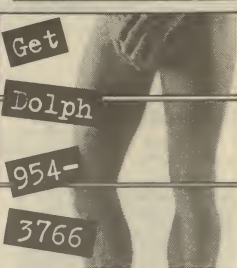
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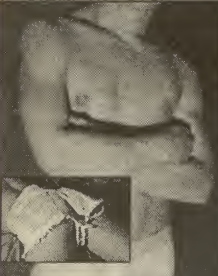
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Bay Area Reporter

VOL. XXV NO. 1 JANUARY 3, 1992

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SFPD Raids AIDS Benefit

The San Francisco bureau of inspectors will send police officers to the Bay Area's largest AIDS benefit...
The San Francisco bureau of inspectors will send police officers to the Bay Area's largest AIDS benefit...
The San Francisco bureau of inspectors will send police officers to the Bay Area's largest AIDS benefit...

Hansen Named To Bldg. Commission

By Susan Brinkley
Eileen Hansen, who has been a long-time political activist for the...
Eileen Hansen, who has been a long-time political activist for the...

San Jose Mercury News Sued Over Anti-Gay Harassment

A San Jose Mercury News reporter who was sued by an anti-gay harassment...
A San Jose Mercury News reporter who was sued by an anti-gay harassment...
A San Jose Mercury News reporter who was sued by an anti-gay harassment...

Ammanio To Be Sworn In At City Hall

San Francisco School Board President...
San Francisco School Board President...
San Francisco School Board President...

COMMUNITY NEWS

Civilian Violence Protested
Berland Dies After The...
Civilian Violence Protested...
Berland Dies After The...

The Black Book Can't Be Beat...But It Will Tell You Who Can!

By Susan Brinkley
The Black Book...
The Black Book...
The Black Book...

THEATRE Four Big Girls Stretch Marks

By Susan Brinkley
Theater...
Theater...
Theater...

TEATRO

MS Easy between...
MS Easy between...
MS Easy between...

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT PEOPLE AND PERSONALS

Comedian Scott Thompson Wants a Makeover Bitter Refrain

By Wayne Hoffman
Scott Thompson is one of the...
Scott Thompson is one of the...
Scott Thompson is one of the...

Nazi, Queer, Architect: The Legacy of Philip Johnson

By Robert J. Jackson
A...
A...
A...

Mr. Bill Takes Revenge Prisoner of Love

By David Mangan
Mr. Bill...
Mr. Bill...
Mr. Bill...

OPEN FORUM

EDITORIAL

Issue Number One

The...
The...
The...

The Pride of a Lion

By Susan Brinkley
The...
The...
The...